



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

May 2, 2024

MR. NOAH SCHEER

FOIPA Request No.: 1509646-000
Subject: RAKES, HOBART CHESTER

Dear Mr. Scheer:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request. The FBI has completed its search for records subject to the FOIPA that are responsive to your request. Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

Material consisting of 106 pages has been reviewed pursuant to Title 5, U.S. Code § 552/552a, and this material is being released to you in its entirety with no excisions of information.

Based on the information you provided, we conducted a main and reference entity record search of the Central Records System (CRS) per our standard search policy. For more information about records searches and the standard search policy, see the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum General Information Section.

Duplicate copies of the same document were not processed.

Due to the age and condition of the original documents, some of the reproduced copies are extremely difficult to read. Every effort has been made to obtain the best copies possible.

Records that may have been responsive to your request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1228; Title 44, United States Code, Section 3310 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1229.10.

A record that may be responsive to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request has been transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). If you wish to review these records, submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to NARA, Special Access and FOIA, 8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500, College Park, MD 20740-6001. Please reference the file number 31-HQ-75563.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. **"Part 1"** of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. **"Part 2"** includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. **"Part 3"** includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Additional information about the FOIPA can be found at www.fbi.gov/foia. Should you have questions regarding your request, please feel free to contact foipaquestions@fbi.gov. Please reference the FOIPA Request number listed above in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of this response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by emailing the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison at foipaquestions@fbi.gov. The subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. G. Seidel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael G. Seidel
Section Chief
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosures

FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
 - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
 - b. *Reference Entity Records*- created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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STATEMENT MADE BY ROBERT RAKES

Mr. W. S. Maynard,
Parole Officer,

The following matter is pertaining to the statement of Robert Rakes, # 29235 of the United States Penitentiary, at Atlanta, Georgia, accusation while on parole, details of apprehension, etc. I was paroled from Camp Dix, N. J. on Oct 29, 1930 to Mr. James Roberts, of Lindsey, W.Va, who was my parole advisor and employer. Upon my release at Camp Dix, I immediately departed for my home in Williamson, W-Va, which was twenty miles distant from Lindsey, W-Va. October 30, 1930 on my arrival in Williamson I immediately reported in person to my voucher, Mr. James Roberts in Lindsey, W-Va. and arranged with him to begin work at once in his mercantile business in Lindsey, W-Va, returning by automobile to my home and family in Williamson twenty miles distant from my place of employment; that is I returned home each day at the end of business. My work in the store was that of clerk and buyer of merchandise such as was stocked by the store, at various times when new stock was needed, I was sent to Bluefield to make purchases from the wholesale establishments there. Bluefield is approximately seventy five miles from Lindsey, W.Va my place of employment. After I took up my duties in the store of Mr. Roberts I was not absent from work except as above noted, (see file of Mr. Frank Loveland Jr, supervisor of Paroles Washington, D.C.) In Mr Lovelands files are letters from Mr. Roberts verifying these statements, Mr. Roberts is, and was at that time Postmaster of Lindsey, W-Va.

On or about the 10th of December 1930, Mr. Roberts instructed that I go to Bluefield to purchase a bill of merchandise for sale during the Christmas Holidays. I departed from place of employment at approximately noon, arriving in Bluefield at 3.00 PM same date or three hours after my departure from Lindsey at our place of business. On my arrival in Bluefield I immediately made my way toward the wholesale establishment where I was to purchase merchandise on instructions from my employer, and voucher. On my way down to the wholesale house, I met Officer Wilson, of the Bluefield City Police whom I had known for several years, and after exchanging the customary greetings with Mr. Wilson and telling him of my business in Bluefield, he informed me that he had arrested two men who claimed they were from Williamson, W-Va, "My home town" and they were confined in the City Jail. These men had given the police their names, and place of residence as Williamson, W-Va. However it seemed at that time the Police were doubtful of their identity. Officer Wilson asked me if I would meet him at the police station and identify these men, if possible as they claimed the same place of residence as was my home town, of something like fifteen thousand population. I advised Mr. Wilson that after I attended to my employers business in the wholesale district I would gladly meet him at the police station for the purpose of identifying the two fellows whose identity was in question. After fulfilling my mission at the wholesale establishment I made my way to the Bluefield Police Station to meet Officer Wilson

as stated. On my arrival at the Police Station I ask for Officer Wilson and was informed by the Chief of Police John Holdren (see copy of Mr. James Demmons letter) Mr. Wilson was not at the station; so I proceeded to state to the chief of police of my meeting officer Wilson, and of our conversation regarding the two men from Williamson, whom had that day been arrested and confined in the Bluefield City Jail. Chief Holdren advised me the two men were there charged with possession of liquor etc, and had them brought out, as soon as these men saw me they spoke calling me by name. I spoke calling them by name. Charley White, and Carl Rockel, having known them both prior to my sentence to the penitentiary, but I had not seen either of them since my return on parole to Williamson. (Prior to my visit to the police station in Bluefield, I had not made the acquaintance of the Chief of police John Holdren after I had identified these men as being Charley White, and Carl Rockel respectfully, Chief Holdren informed me that the identity was satisfactory, as on arrest they given the same names as they were known by me.

Chief Holdren then proceeded to grill these men as to their connection with myself, and was informed by them that they had no connection with me, and had never had any connection with me at any time, and had not seen me for at least two years prior to that day. After questioning these men at length regarding their possible connection with myself he ordered them locked up and held on a whiskey ~~charge~~ possession charge. After the two men were returned to their cells, he, the Chief, proceeded to ply me with the same line of questions in regard to a possible connection with the two men. I explained to Chief Holdren what my business was in the City of Bluefield, and also presented him with my place of employment, place of residence, and also explained to him the system of parole which I carried on my paroled federal prisoners each month, to reports that were made by Washington.

No doubt I made a mistake by letting it be known about the binding conditions of my parole agreement; as the Chief seemed to think that he could take the advantage of me under such conditions. he, the Chief, then propositioned me, advising me to give him one hundred and fifty dollars and go my way, knowing that I had not violated the law in any way. I bitterly refused to pay him anything. I then realized that the Chief of police, John. Holdren was a crooked dealer, and that he was willfully trying to deal from the bottom regardless of the unfair punishment it would bring upon my family as well as myself.

While the above proceedings was taking place the newspapers men of Bluefield, and others unknown to me, had gathered in the police station, I had not been placed under arrest, and I was never under arrest by police of Bluefield, and the records of the Municipal Court will clearly show that my statement is true.

After being detained at the police station several hours the chief was fully ~~and~~ convinced that I would not give him any money, and he again told me that I could go. I had then become more suspicious than ever of a ~~trumped~~ trumped up charge, and I strongly insisted that I be given a trial, if he thought that I was connected with White and Rockel. He refused to give me a trial, and informed me that he was not preferring any charge against me.

I returned home to my family at Williamson, W-Va with a clear understanding, that no charges, would be placed against me. The following day I returned to my place of employment at Lindsey, W-Va, and after having reported the incident of my trip to Bluefield to my voucher, my voucher immediately reported the matter to Mr. Frank Loveland, Supervisor of Paroles, (see Mr. Lovelands files) approximately one week later the newspapers reported through a news item, that Charley White, Carl Rockel, and myself, had made bond of four hundred and fifty dollars. The newspaper clipping was mailed to Mr. Loveland by my voucher, the error was discovered, and the press corrected previous reports, stating that I had not made bond as was erroneously published on a prior date. These corrections by the press regarding myself was also mailed to Mr. Loveland, Supervisor of Paroles, Washington, D. C.

I continued with my work at Lindsey, W-Va, until January, 31, at which time a friend came to me in Williamson, (Officer Quinn) of the State police of W-Va and confidentially advised me that certain parties, whom were enemies of mine of long standing, were preparing to frame a report to the parole Board on the strength of the erroneous newspaper reports that had been published. These parties were influential politicians, and later when they learned of officer Quinns friendly information to me, they effected his dismissal from the employ of the State of W-Va.

When I was paroled, I secured permission from Parole Supervisor Mr. Loveland to go into Virginia and Kentucky, but as I heretofore stated, I was paroled to West Virginia. Accepting Officer Quinn's advice that I leave the jurisdiction of West Virginia, I moved my family to Christiansburg, Va. however I made no secret of my whereabouts during this time; I continued making my regular monthly reports through and by my voucher, Mr. Roberts, living peacefully at Christiansburg, Va. About nine months after I had been detained in Bluefield, I was placed under arrest at ~~Christiansburg~~ Christiansburg, Va. by State, and City officers by authority of a telegram from Federal authorities for my return to Atlanta, as a parole violator.

I was immediately turned over to the Chief Deputy Marshal, Mr. C. W. Hamilton, of Roanoke, Va. knowing that I had lived up to the rules and regulations of my parole agreement, I cheerfully departed from my sad wife, and little children, assuring them with all sincerity that I would return home as soon as I could have a trial, therefore I prevailed on Mr. Hamilton, to return me to West Virginia, for trial. Mr. Hamilton wired the District Attorney, Mr. James Dameron at Huntington, W-Va in regard to this matter, and was advised by the D.A. that I was not wanted in that district. Upon such information the Deputy Marshall Hamilton immediately returned me to Atlanta, September 16, 1931. Five months later, Feb 17, 1932 I was called before the Parole Board to determine as to whether or not my parole would be revoked, and some time later, I was notified that my parole had been revoked. Before appearing before the Board for a hearing, I accumulated a mass of evidence such as letters, corrections etc, as follows.

From James. Dameron, U.S. District Atty under date of December 10, 1931.

From Charley White, under date of Oct 14, 1931.

From Charley White, under date of Jan 1, 1932.

From Charlie White to the Parole Office under date of October 8, 1931.

When I appeared before the parole Board, I expected a fair and impartial hearing, and consideration of each and every bit of authentic evidence which I had filed, however, it is now impressed upon my mind, without a doubt, that the Board did not rest their conclusion upon the aforesaid evidence. I shall sincerely add that I have no criticism what ever for the parole Board, as I am now convinced that the former U. S. District attorney, Mr. James Dameron, has willfully furnished the Board with conflicting information to which he furnished me in his letter under date of December 10th, 1931.

I have been the victim of a political faction, and under such conditions, I am making a strenuous effort, to bring the truth to light, therefore I am handing you a clear explanation of my first arrest, which will clearly explain the reasons for which James Dameron rendered his conflicting information.

Making Williamson, W-Va my home for some years prior to my conviction in March 1929, I was active in political affairs, taking instructions directly from James Dameron and G. W. Hatfield, I furnished money, and whiskey to support each and every man on the Republican ticket, in the year 1923, Mr. Wirt Hatfield, the elder son of G. W. Hatfield was elected Mayor of the City of Williamson, W-Va. This was my first desperate effort to elect a Republican Mayor, however; I furnished liquor free to the public on election day, paying twenty dollars per gallon for it, also furnished automobiles to go ten miles outside the corporation, bringing people to vote whom had never lived inside the corporation limits. Under such conditions the Mayor was elected his first time by a small majority, he, the Mayor lived up to his agreement with me, and I continued furnishing him my support at each election which reelected him every two years. However, the Democratic party was still in power in Mingo Co. until 1928 at which time the U. S. District Attorney, James Dameron and G. W. Hatfield did wilfully make use of George W. McClintic's Court, to oust the Democratic party, their steps to do so was as follows.

In 1928, James Dameron and G. W. Hatfield, put their stool pigeons to work buying whiskey from hip pocket bootleggers, at each time a sale was made, the stool pigeons would place the name date of sale, etc on the bottle. The Chief of Police A. R. Stapp, conducted the activities of the stool pigeons, Chief Stapp was working under direct instruction from G. W. Hatfield, and they were successful in buying from quiet a number of people. Federal charges were placed against the sellers, but they were advised by the U. S. District attorney and G. W. Hatfield that they

would not be prosecuted if they would come clean, and tell ~~the~~ about paying off, or selling whiskey to certain Democrat politicians, whom at that time held offices in Mingo County. Such as Sheriff, Prosecuting Attorney, Circuit Court Clerk, Tax assessor, Deputy Sheriffs etc. Under such trickery, scheming, indictments were sustained against the aforesaid parties. However the evidence was very weak, therefore Damron and Hatfield set out to strengthen their trumped up evidence.

Before the election in 1928, G. W. Hatfield called me over the telephone and invited me to meet him at his residence. I did so, his conversation was as follows. Hobart, You have got by with these Democrats for several years, no doubt you have gave them lots of money for protection. Now you know that I am running for Sheriff, and we want to win this election, regardless, because you know that I can give you protection in Federal Court, and if I am elected Sheriff, you will have full protection in the County also. What we want to do, is prosecute that bunch which is indicted in Federal Court, that will oust every Democrat from office, and we will go over with a landslide, this can be done Hobart, if you will give Damron the low down, on the ones whom you have payed off, such as the Sheriff, prosecuting attorney, circuit Court Clerk, Tax assessor, deputy sheriffs etc. I never revealed any pay off, if there was such a thing, but I did advise Mr. Hatfield that I could not furnish Mr. Damron, or anyone else with such information. Mr. Hatfield then suggested that I accompany him to Huntington, W-Va, and talk the matter over with the District Attorney. I went with Mr. Hatfield to the District Attorneys office in Huntington, and the D. A. Mr. Damron prevailed on me for information to prosecute the aforesaid parties, assuring me with full protection in George M. McClintics Court, I again refused to take any part in the frame up. Damron, then informed Hatfield that he would have the ~~Department~~ Department of Justice, furnish him investigators to dig up the information. I continued to support Hatfield and his gang with money, and liquor, and at the November election 1928, G. W. Hatfield was elected Sheriff, and almost every office in Mingo County, was filled with Republicans. The Democrat politicians had not yet been tried, then comes the investigator, (Hertzig) from the Department of Justice, at the request of James Damron, to investigate the political ~~affair~~ affair, so Mr Damron claimed. But his chief reason for this investigation was to cover up the dirty work of himself, and G. W. Hatfield, Hertzig arrived in Williamson, W-Va in January 1929, immediately after his arrival he prevailed on me for the same information which I had refused Hatfield and Damron, several times Hertzig also tried to show me how well I had been protected by the D. A. and the Sheriff, Hatfield. He then tried to impress upon me, that I should be thankful for such faithful friends, and that I should render them any such information as they may need. I could never understand how that Damron and Hatfield, could have the heart to frame up evidence to persecute these people for that which they were more guilty of themselves. Therefore I advised Hertzig that if I was forced to make a statement against the ones whom I had been dealing with in the

liquor business, and paying off etc. My statement would be more severe against Damron and Hatfield than any one else. Hertzig, then informed me that he was not looking for information against Damron and Hatfield, but that he had been sent to me by Damron for information concerning the Democrats, whom were indicted in Federal Court.

Several days later Hertzig called me over the telephone, and invited me to his room at the Hotel. I met Hertzig at the Hotel, he held a mass of papers in his hand which he claimed was affidavits against me. I asked him who could be making affidavits against me. He then turned through his papers calling the names one, by one, he included several of the names whom were indicted in Federal Court, saying that these affidavits would be used to prosecute me, in Federal Court. But if I would give him Five Hundred Dollars he would fix up with Damron, and destroy the affidavits.

I had never transacted any business with any of the people whom he claimed had made the affidavits, therefore, I knew that he had framed up the affidavits to collect money or information from me, and I resentfully informed Mr. Hertzig that the so called affidavits was not worth the paper which he had used to write them on.

Hertzig was convinced that he could not get any information, or money from me, so he then arranged for a fellow Ferguson, to bring some whiskey to my garage, he also notified the State police, that whiskey was to be delivered to my garage at a certain time, and when Ferguson arrived at the Garage he was placed under arrest. My brother, Ernest Rakes and Claud Pridmore, was at the garage so they were arrested also, not knowing that Ferguson was acting stool pigeon. I furnished bond for him, as well as my brother and Pridmore. Hertzig then included me as one of his victims, and placed charges of conspiracy against the four of us. Hertzig knew that he could not prosecute me on this trumped up charge unless he could get Damron and Hatfield turned against me. Therefore; he had Ferguson to use my name, and make affidavits against Hatfield and Damron, in his affidavits, he told about certain liquor deals which Damron and Hatfield had actually transacted with me. Hertzig presented his affidavits and convinced Damron and Hatfield that I made them, which turned them bitterly against me. Hertzig then gave Ferguson money and a ticket and sent him out of the State. Ferguson's whereabouts was unknown to me, and I was unable to convince Damron and Hatfield, that I did not make the statement against them.

March 1929 Ernest Rakes, Claud Pridmore, and myself appeared at Huntington, W-Va for trial on the conspiracy charge, I had lots of good witnesses, whom knew the scheming conditions upon which I had been arrested, and if I go to trial, the dirty scheming trickery work of James Damron and C. A. Hatfield would be brought to light, also the liquor deals which they had recently transacted with me, and of five thousand dollars, which I paid Damron for whiskey, which he claimed to have taken for a fee in murder cases. Before going to trial, the U. S. A.

ron invited me, my brother, and Fridemore into his office, and Mr. Hatfield was present, and they prevailed on us to plead guilty to the ~~change~~ conspiracy charge, explaining to us that it would mean lots of criticism to them ~~if~~ if we went to trial. They also assured us, that we would not serve more than one year and one day if we would plead guilty.

After all the dirty scheming work of Hatfield and Damron, I still held full respect for them and their families, and I had no desire for them ~~maximizing~~ to be criticized, therefore, I placed full confidence in their promises to me that I would not have more than one year to serve, if I would plead guilty to conspiracy, and under such conditions, I agreed to plead guilty. He immediately went into the Court Room, and Judge McClintic sentenced the three of to two years on the Conspiracy charge, and two years for violation of sec 3296, which was called the old revenue act. As little as I know about the Law, I felt sure that something was crooked about us getting four years, however the Da A. Mr. Damron taken us back into his office, and tried to square us up, telling us that it was only a mistake, and for us not to worry, because he would see that we would not have more than one year to serve.

G. W. Hatfield was present and he also made us the same promise, however the false affidavits brought about by Hertzig, must have caused Damron and Hatfield to be bitterly against me, as they have not lived up to their promises, and instead of helping me, they have furnished false reports against me, because I would not help them frame up evidence to prosecute good moral citizens. Soon after my return here as a parole violator, in regard to the political affair in Mingo County in 1928. I was interviewed by Mr. W. B. Disney, on the 6th of Oct 1931. Mr. Disney informed me that he had been checking up on the work of Hertzig at the time of the political trouble at Williamson, W.-Va. He also advised me that he U S District Attorney, Mr. Damron had informed him that I knew all about the trouble, and that he wanted him to get a statement from me in regard to the matter. I made a sworn statement to Mr. Disney, in regard to Hertzig. Damron seemed to think that I should ~~xxxx~~ still keep their dirty work covered up, therefore he was not pleased with my statement to Mr. Disney, and that is just one more reason that he is trying to keep me in the penitentiary, by sending false reports to the Department Of Justice against me. I trust that it will be born in mind that the reports which has been filed against me, is not supported by any Court record, it is only framed up reports, which caused my retaking, and these reports were made by people whom have proven to be unworthy of holding office. This punishment is not only unfair to me, but it is unfair to my good wife and three small children whom have born all the hardships brought about by false reports, and for which none of us should be held responsible, my wife has been compelled to toil daily, for the necessities of life because of my absence, while others whom are solely responsible for this said affair have indeed been blessed financially.

This is terrible injustice, and in regard to restoration of my good time, I trust that this statement will be taken into consideration by the Parole Board, or the Attorney General. I also trust that they will be guided by the dictates of their own conscience which is free to act in all matters in a righteous way. I strongly believe, that I will be permitted to return home to my sad wife and little children, which reunion would be so full of real joy and praise to God, that it could not possibly be described. Any steps that may be taken toward rendering justice in my case, I assure it will be deeply appreciated by me, my family, and friends.

Respectfully,

Robert James Regan
ROBERT JAMES REGAN

LAW OFFICES
JAMES DARTON
BETHESDA, W. VA.
BANKER-PENNSA BUILDING

September
Sixth,
1932.

W. B. Maynard, Esq.,
Parole Officer,
United States Penitentiary,
Atlanta, Ga.

Re: Hobart Rakes, #29233-A

Dear Sir:-

See your letter to me under date of July 12th and my reply thereto under date of July 14th; your letter to me under date of July 28th enclosing photostatic copy of purported letter from me to the above named subject under date of December 10th and my letter to you under date of August 5th enclosing exact copy of my letter to subject under date of December 10th; my letter to you under date of August 23rd.

I am at a loss to know why you have not answered my letter of August 5th in which I suggested that you have a talk with the subject, Rakes, and get from him the facts as to this forged letter purporting to have been written by me, of which you mailed me a photostatic copy. I thought you might obtain this statement from Rakes and save an investigation by the Department of Justice.

I must insist on a reply to my letter of August 5th, at once.

Yours very truly,

James Darton
JAMES DARTON

JD:C

114 9

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Department of Defense
Office of the Inspector General
Washington, D.C. 20315

August 25, 1998

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

Re: [Illegible]

Dear Sir:

Please find my letter to you of August 4, and
let me know as early as possible.

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

LAW OFFICES
DAMRON AND MCGULLOUGH
SUITE 300 FIRST HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

JAMES DAMRON
F. WITCHER MCGULLOUGH

August 5, 1932.

William S. Maynard, Esquire,
Parole Officer,
United States Penitentiary,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Re: Hobart Rakes, #29235-A

Dear Sir:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th ult., enclosing photostat copy of purported letter from me to Hobart Rakes dated December 10, 1931.

As I said to you in my letter of July 14, if you had a letter written to Hobart Rakes purporting to have been written by me saying that he was innocent of the charges against him as shown from my investigation, that the letter was a forgery, or rather it was not written by me. When I read this photostat copy I was not only surprised, but I knew that no such letter had ever emanated from my office or had been written by me. Inasmuch as I do not have the office files, having retired as District Attorney on June 23, I wrote my successor at the Charleston office to look to the Hobart Rakes file and send me a copy of any letter written by me to him dated December 10, 1931, and I am today in receipt of such copy, which copy I enclose you herein. As stated in my former letter, I did not write the letter, photostat copy of which you mailed me, but evidently Rakes knows who did write it, as he got it with a view of helping him get his release. What I now want to know is, how, where and when, Rakes got this letter. It is written on the Department stationery or letter-heads used by me--it is my signature, but I did not write the body of this letter. If you are not already in possession of the original letter, please get it and keep it as I want an investigation as to who wrote it and how Rakes got it.

You will notice from the copy of the letter I wrote him, which is enclosed herein, and the one he says he received, the language is entirely different. He is not even addressed in the photostat copy, and the only language I find in the letter I wrote him and the photostat copy that corresponds, is the last paragraph. You will note in the letter I wrote him in the last paragraph and the last three lines I said, "I want you to know that I have a very kind feeling for you and that I am sorry you did not live up to your parole agreement." The photostat copy has a part of this, it says-- "I want you to know that I have a very kind feeling for you, and that I am sorry that you have met with such foul play."

I believe if you will have a heart-to-heart talk with Rakes he will tell you all about how he got this letter--that is, who wrote it and who suggested it. What I can't understand is, that it has my signature. I say I can't understand--I might understand if I saw the original. In other words, I had a similar

William S. Maynard, Esquire.

Sheet #2

August 5, 1932.

case during my incumbency as District Attorney--that is, a traced signature.

I want you to be good enough to write me fully after you have talked with Rakes and tell me just what he says. Also advise me if you have personally inspected the original letter of which you sent me a photostat copy and if so, whether or not you can detect anything that looks like "traced signature" or "doctoring."

I might say that the Charlie White referred to is the son of a woman that Hobart Rakes' father is living with; that the Rockel referred to is the grandson of Hobart Rakes' father. I prosecuted and sent both of them to the penitentiary and they are now there for the part played by them in the violation of which Rakes was taken back on his parole. The Chief of Police of Bluefield was never removed and there was never any question about Rakes' connection with the automobile load of liquor seized in Bluefield.

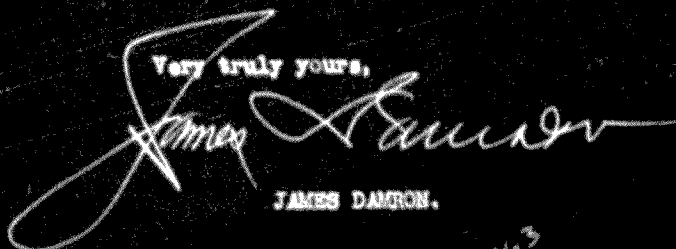
I have heretofore given the Department the true facts, but when I hear from you again I will give them to you in detail, as I know them so well that I have no trouble in calling them to memory, but what I now want to know is, about this letter of December 10, 1931.

You might say to Rakes that an investigation will clearly establish that this purported letter, of which you mailed me photostat copy, was conceived by him to deceive you and the Parole Board, and that he might as well tell you who at this end of the line was helping him, and who really mailed him the letter. I have a kindly feeling for him, but I won't stand for such high handed business as this.

While I am no longer connected with the Department, you can rest assured that I will, at all times, be glad to furnish you any information I can.

Kindly let me hear from you by return mail.

Very truly yours,



JAMES DANTON.

JD:8

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Department of Justice
United States Board of Parole
Washington

July 28, 1932.

Mr. William S. Maynard,
Parole Officer,
U. S. Penitentiary,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Maynard:

In compliance with your request of July 18th, I am enclosing herewith a photostatic copy of the letter from Mr. James Durren, former United States Attorney of Huntington, W. Va., addressed to Robert Baker, Register No. 29235, Atlanta Penitentiary, under date of December 10, 1931.

Very truly yours,

Ruby M. Carr
Executive Secretary.

LAW OFFICES
DAMRON AND McGILLOUGH
SUITE 300 FIRST HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

July 14, 1952

JAMES DAMRON
F. W. McGILLOUGH

William S. Maynard, Esq.,
Parole officer,
United States Penitentiary,
Atlanta, Ga.

RE: ROBERT RAKES, #29255-A

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of inquiry of the 12th inst.
I note the second paragraph of your letter which reads:

"Of course, your letter of December the 10th, clearly
indicates Rakes is innocent of the charge for which
he was returned as a Parole Violator, yet the apparent
false acquittals made by White placed subject in
position to have his parole revoked."

I am no longer District Attorney and don't have
access to the office file in this case, but from memory I must say
you are mistaken as to the contents of my letter of December 10th.
In other words, if you have a letter as of that date which indicates
the innocence of Rakes, it was not written by me. I have said to
Rakes that I sympathized with him, and would like to see him released
when he has been sufficiently punished, but knowing the facts as I do,
I can't say that he was innocent, and my letter of December 10th don't
indicate it. I wish you would send me a copy of this letter, and point
out to me wherein I indicated that Rakes was innocent of the charge.

Yours very truly,

James Damron
JAMES DAMRON.

JD:5

73-2272-21

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
—
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
HUNTINGTON

June
18th,
1932.

Mr. Hobart Hakes,
United States Penitentiary,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 14th. I will retire as United States Attorney of this district the last day of this month. However, it would be improper for me to represent any one in a petition for clemency or parole that I had prosecuted. However, before the appointment of my successor some several days ago, I recommended to the Department the pardon, release on parole, or commutation of sentence of all prisoners convicted of violating the Prohibition laws who had served as much as one year. This, of course, will include you.

Yours very truly,



James Dameron,
United States Attorney.

JD:Mc

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

MUNTINGTON

March 22, 1932

Hon. Ray L. Huff,
Supervisor of Parole,
Bureau of Prisons,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: Hobart Hakes

I have your letter of the 19th inst. and note carefully what you say regarding subject. I do not know where you got the information contained in your letter, but it is not in keeping with the facts. I note by the second paragraph of your letter you say:

"The case seems clear except in the light of your letter of December 10, 1931, addressed to Mr. Hobart Hakes."

By referring to my office file I find copy of the letter referred to, but if you will refer to my two letters to you - one dated September 16, 1931, and the other October 6, 1931, respectively, you will find the facts detailed therein which shows the basis of my letter to Hakes dated December 10th. In short, these are the circumstances detailed you at that time and which have since developed in the trial of Rockel, one of the joint defendants indicted with subject Hakes.

Soon after his parole Hakes went back into the liquor business. He formerly lived at Williamson, West Virginia, to which place he returned after his parole and at which place he engaged in the liquor business with Carl Rockel and Charley White, the automobile drivers who brought the liquor in for Hakes from Kentucky and Virginia. A short time after Hakes went into the liquor business at Williamson a State search warrant was procured by the State Police for the search of his home and his garage. The home was searched and liquor found therein; his garage was searched and three 10-gallon kegs or thirty gallons of moonshine liquor found therein, Charley White, one of the joint defendants in the indictment with Hakes, being on the inside of the garage at the time with the door locked. White was taken by one of the officers to the county jail and later released on bond. The State Police started to jail with Hakes and just as they attempted to enter the reception room of the jail Hakes ran and jumped into Tug River which is the stream dividing West Virginia and Kentucky and which runs within

3/22/32

fifty feet of the jail, and was soon in the State of Kentucky. The officers fired on him as he ran but the firing failed to have any effect.

Two or three weeks after this happening Hakes, the same Charley White and Carl Rockel, who is a nephew, as I understand, of Hakes, were caught by the city police in Bluefield, West Virginia, having transported thirty or thirty-five gallons of liquor from Roanoke, Virginia, to Bluefield, West Virginia. They were placed in jail and two or three days afterwards the wife of Hobart Hakes came to Bluefield and put up a cash bond of \$150.00 for each, or \$450.00 in all, to the Chief of Police. None of them made any further appearance and the bond was forfeited. The car in which the liquor was found was retained by the Chief of Police, which has never been called for, and it is presumed the liquor was destroyed. Hakes was later apprehended at Christiansburg, Virginia, and returned to the penitentiary.

At the next term of the Bluefield grand jury the three, Hakes, Rockel and White, were indicted for transporting liquor, the Chief of Police being the witness before the grand jury. White was arrested and arraigned upon the indictment. He entered a plea of guilty and the court took time to consider his judgment until Rockel could be apprehended. Of course, Hakes was back in the penitentiary. At the last term of the Bluefield Court, which was in January, Rockel was apprehended and he demanded trial. He was represented by able counsel. It developed during the trial that Hakes had rented a house in Bluefield in which he, Rockel and White were living at the time they were arrested for transporting the load of liquor; that Hakes paid the rent on the building; that the car in which the liquor was transported belonged to Trixie Hakes, the wife of Hobart Hakes; and that to raise the \$450.00 which was paid for the bond Mrs. Estella T. Smith, aunt of Trixie Hakes, wife of Hobart Hakes, mortgaged her Buick car. This last statement is shown from a letter written to Trial Judge McClintic by Mrs. Estella T. Smith from Williamson, West Virginia, under date of November 3, 1931, a copy of which I have in my file.

Hon. Ray L. Huff

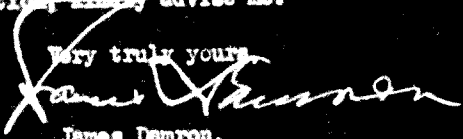
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3/22/32

Rockel was convicted by a jury at Bluefield the last term of court and sentenced to three years in the United States Industrial Reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio, he having been convicted and sentenced on January 23, 1932. At the present term of the Huntington term of court White, the other defendant, was arraigned upon the indictment and sentenced to fifteen months in the United States Industrial Reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio. The case as to Rakes is still pending.

If there is any further information you desire in this connection, kindly advise me.

Very truly yours,


James Demron,
United States Attorney.

JD-m

December 10, 1931.

Mr. Hobart Baker,
Box 1733,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 2d.

I note you say that Charley White and Carl Rockel, as well as the former Chief of Police of Bluefield, will make affidavits stating that you were not connected with the White and Rockel liquor delivery at Bluefield for which you stand indicted. I know nothing except what the Chief of Police testified to before the Grand Jury and what White has said in his affidavit. White says the last load of liquor he and Rockel brought to Bluefield was the third or fourth load that they had brought from Rocky Mount or some place near Roanoke to Bluefield for you; that on this particular trip you stayed at Bluefield in the morning for the delivery of the liquor and that neither he nor Rockel had any money to put up as bond and that you put the entire amount up. White also swears that the car in which the liquor was transported belonged to your wife's mother and she has recently written Judge McGlintic to that effect. Both White and Rockel were apprehended and gave bond for their appearance at the Charleston term of Court which ended, so far as the criminalocket is concerned, ten days ago. White appeared but Rockel forfeited his bond, your father being his bondsman. If you have affidavits from the Chief of Police and White and Rockel contrary to the statements they made to me herein contained, I would be glad if you would furnish me with copies of them. I want you to know that I have a very kind feeling for you and that I am sorry you did not live up to your parole agreement.

Very truly yours,

JAMES DARRON,
United States Attorney.

79125

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
HUNTINGTON

December 10, 1931.

Mr. Hobart Rakes,
P. O. Box # 1733,
Atlanta, Georgia.

I have your letter of the 2nd, regarding your parole violation.

I am glad to advise you that since I answered your letter of October 8th, I have made a very careful investigation of your case, and I am now convinced with proof that your statement to me in your letter of October 8th, was true, and that the statements made against you by the Chief of Police of Bluefield, W. Va., and Charley White of Dingess, W. Va., has been proven false.

Due to the true facts and circumstances surrounding your case I feel that it is now my duty to advise you that the indictment made by the Chief of Police of Bluefield, W. Va., will no longer stand against you, as I have no desire for any man to serve further time in prison for that which he is innocent of.

You asked me if it would be necessary for you to have affidavits sent to me by Charley White, and Carl Rochel, and the Chief of Police of Bluefield, W. Va. It will not be necessary as I am now fully convinced that you are innocent of the charge, and that it was false reports which caused your retaking.

I am also aware of the fact that Charley White made a false statement against you to clear himself. I also learn that the Chief of Police of Bluefield was discontinued due to the fact that the public did not approve of his false statements.

Due to the circumstances in your case I hereby recommend that you be released on parole and given another chance.

This letter is self explanatory, and you can present same to the Warden, and also the Parole Board, which will undoubtedly assist you in having your parole restored. I also assure the Honorable Parole Board that an early release for you will meet with my approval.

I want you to know that I have a very kind feeling for you, and that I am sorry that you have met with such foul play.

Very truly yours,

James Dameron,
United States Attorney.

Sgd. Dameron
by Dameron

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10

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
HUNTINGTON

October 6, 1931

Mr. Ray L. Huff,
Supervisor of Parole,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Re: Hobart Bakes.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of September 23, I beg to advise you as follows:

After this subject was released from the penitentiary on parole he returned to Williamson, Mingo County, West Virginia, where he was living at the time of his former conviction. Prior to the term of United States Court held at Bluefield in January, 1931, I had information that Bakes was back in the liquor business. I saw in one of the state papers where he and two other fellows had been arrested in Bluefield, so when I reached Bluefield at the January term I made an investigation and found that he, his brother-in-law and a man by the name of Charley White had been arrested by the Chief of Police of that city on a charge of transporting liquor from Virginia to West Virginia. I called the Chief of Police to my office and he informed me that some two or three weeks before that he was notified by a garage keeper that an automobile loaded with liquor had been left in his garage over night; that he immediately went to the garage, got a description of the three men and in a few minutes met them on the street; that he arrested them, took them to the city jail, destroyed the liquor in the car and seized the car; that they stayed in jail two or three days and Hobart Bakes inquired of him what cash bond he would accept for their release; that he told them that they would accept \$400.00 in cash and the seized automobile for their appearance the next day or a couple days later; that Bakes sent a telegram to Williamson, West Virginia, and \$400.00 in money was sent him which he delivered to the Chief of Police and they were turned out. I sent the Chief of Police before the Grand Jury at the Bluefield term, who indicted Hobart Bakes, his brother-in-law, Carl Rockwell, and Charley White for transporting thirty-five gallons of liquor.

It developed from an inspection of the state automobile records that the car in which the liquor was transported and which was seized by the Chief of Police belonged to the wife of Hobart Bakes and the Chief of Police told me that neither Bakes nor the other two ever appeared to the bond and the same was forfeited; that he kept the car by reason of the forfeiture.

Sheet No. 2

Mr. Ray L. Huff

October 6, 1931

These three men, after their release from Bluefield, immediately returned to Williamson and in ten days or two weeks thereafter, the state police got a search warrant for the building and outbuildings occupied by Hobart Rakes, he having rented a brick residence and a garage on Fifth or Sixth Avenue of that city; that they found in making the search thirty gallons of liquor in Hobart Rakes' garage and certain liquors in his home; that they further found in the garage at the time, this same Charley White who was arrested in Bluefield with Rakes. White was placed in jail and Rakes was, by the state police, taken to the County Jail but before the jailer could unlock the door he escaped from the state police and fled to Kentucky, the Tug River Fork of Sandy River dividing the States of West Virginia and Kentucky near the jail. The state police fired a number of shots at or in the direction of Rakes but he paid no attention to them.

At the following term of the United States Court at Huntington, Rakes and White were again indicted, charged with storing untaxpaid liquor, both of which indictments (the one made at Bluefield and the one made at Huntington) are now pending against Rakes. After he got away from the state police at Williamson he was heard of several times in Virginia and Kentucky and, in fact, it was learned that he had on one or two occasions been in West Virginia, but we were unable to get him until he was arrested by the Chief of Police in Christiansburg and turned over to the Marshal to be returned to the penitentiary.

Very truly yours,


JAMES DARGEN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

JD/1

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
HUNTINGTON

September
16th,
1931.

Hon. Ray L. Huff,
Supervisor of Parole,
Washington, D. C.

In re: Hobart Rakes, parole violator.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your telegram of the 14th as follows:

"RE HOBART RAKES PAROLE VIOLATOR UNITED STATES MARSHAL ROANOKE VIRGINIA STATES SUBJECT IS STILL WANTED IN YOUR DISTRICT DO YOU DESIRE TO PROSECUTE HIM OR DO YOU WISH HIM TO BE RETURNED IF YOU WISH HIM TO BE RETURNED TO PENITENTIARY IMMEDIATELY PLEASE ADVISE MARSHAL ROANOKE VIRGINIA TO THAT EFFECT."

I beg to advise you I immediately wired the United States Marshal to return this subject to the penitentiary upon the charge of violating his parole. We have two indictments pending against Rakes in this District, both of which were for offenses committed by him after he was released from the penitentiary on parole. In other words, no sooner had he been paroled than he went back into the liquor business on a large scale. He was caught in Bluefield, West Virginia, near the Virginia line transporting 30 gallons of moonshine from Virginia to West Virginia. He was put in the Bluefield city jail by police officers and gave his automobile and \$400.00 in cash for his release. We never knew anything about it until several months afterwards.

He was later arrested by West Virginia State Police at Williamson, West Virginia, and upon a search of his premises a large quantity of moonshine was found stored, which was seized and destroyed. On the way to the County Jail he got away from the State Police and we were unable to learn his whereabouts until I was notified by the Chief of Police at Christiansburg, Virginia, that he was there and if we wanted him he would arrest him. A couple hours afterwards he was arrested and put in jail.

I thought it best to let him be returned to the penitentiary to finish serving his original sentence for conviction in this District and

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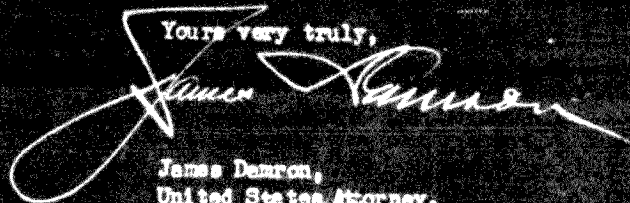
Hon. Ray L. Huff - #2.

In re: Robert Rakes.

at the expiration of his sentence, we will bring him back and sentence him on the cases now pending in this District.

I would thank you to advise me whether or not he has been returned to the penitentiary.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Demron", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a large loop at the end.

James Demron,
United States Attorney.

JD:Mc

Department of Justice
United States Penitentiary
Atlanta, Georgia

OFFICE OF THE WARDEN
September 19, 1931.

Mr. Ray L. Huff,
Supervisor of Parole,
Bureau of Prisons,
Department of Justice,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

In re: Robert Rakes, No. 29235.

The above named subject was returned to this Institution on the 16th instant, by United States Marshal, from Roanoke, Virginia, under authority of a Parole Violator Warrant, issued December 22, 1930.

Subject's statement coincides in part with the memorandum prepared for the Board of Parole, on December 22, 1930, except that subject denies that he paid a fine, or plead guilty, at Bluefield, West Virginia, in December, 1930. His statement is that he, in company with Charles White and Carl Rockwell, were arrested, and that White and Rockwell put up cash bond, after which all were released.

In the event subject's parole is revoked, his sentence will expire on January 12, 1934. This is brought to your attention for proper disposition.

Respectfully,

B. J. Bates
RECORD CLERK.

BFB/s

EO:G NY-22-236 MAY

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VWP:RMF

73
FEBRUARY 15 1933

T D QUINN
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
201 LIBERTY NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING
BIRMINGHAM ALABAMA

ROBERT RAKES ETAL MISCELLANEOUS DISREGARD LEAD INTERVIEW MACK LILLY CONTAINED LETTER
PITTSBURGH FEBRUARY TENIN

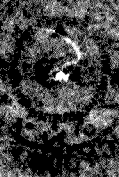
JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR

POSTAL
4-9

RECORDED

73-2272-20
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 16 1933 4 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

RECEIVED
FEB 17 1933



Special Agent in Charge,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

**RE: EDWARD GEORGE BREMER
FUGITIVE; KIDNAP OF JAMES BREMER;
UNITED STATES ARMY.**

I am enclosing herewith the active file from the
office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District
of New England, relative to Edward Bremer, also all papers
relative to Maria E. Bremer, which are in the administrative
file of the office of the United States Attorney for the Southern
District of New England.

It is requested that these papers be returned to the
Pittsburgh Bureau office as soon as they have covered their purpose.

Very truly yours,

Respectfully,
J. E. Edwards

J. E. Edwards,
Special Agent.



VNP:ED
73-2272-19

RECORDED

FEB 18 1933

February 16, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
1206 Law and Finance Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

For your information in connection with the case entitled ROBERT HAKES, et al, Miscellaneous - Forgery of Name of James Durren, you are advised that same is receiving special attention by the Bureau. Special Agent L. P. Oliver has been conducting the investigation of this case and is familiar with all angles of same.

Special Agent Oliver will proceed to the district covered by the Pittsburgh office within the next few days for the purpose of conducting interviews with certain individuals implicated in this case. Agent Oliver will also interview Mack Lilly who is confined in the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia, at the present time.

The Birmingham Bureau office has been instructed by the Bureau to disregard the suggestion contained in your letter of February 10, 1933, to interview Mack Lilly.

Very truly yours,

Director.



U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice
1206 Law & Finance Bldg.,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

February 10, 1933

Director
United States Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: HOBART RAKES ET AL
MISCELLANEOUS - FORGERY OF NAME
OF JAMES DAMRON, UNITED STATES
ATTORNEY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to report of Special Agent
H. Heywood, Pittsburgh, Pa., January 25, 1933.

On Page 1, Paragraph 3, attention is invited
to that part of the report which reads, "He had learned that
before trial Mack Lilly had obtained a copy of all letters
and documents relative to the case of HOBART RAKES, written
by United States Attorney Damron". This should have read,
"He had learned that before trial Mack Lilly had obtained a
copy of all letters and documents relative to the case,
written by United States Attorney Damron".

Therefore, Earl Lilly had reference to letters
and documents relative to the case of Mack Lilly rather than
the case of HOBART RAKES.

It was ascertained at Charleston, W. Va. that
Mack Lilly is at the present time confined in the United
States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia and it is requested
that he be interviewed, ascertaining all information that he
may have as to the documents furnished Tom Dougherty by Elsie
Lockridge.

Very truly yours,

G. A. Stevens

G. A. STEVENS, Acting
Special Agent in Charge

GAS:IW
62-650

cc: U.S. Atty., Charleston, W. Va.
Washington Field
Birmingham

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

FEB 18 1933

73-2272-19	
FEB 11 1933 A. M.	
Mr. One	Mr. Two
Mr. Three	Mr. Four
Mr. Five	Mr. Six
Mr. Seven	Mr. Eight
Mr. Nine	Mr. Ten
Mr. Eleven	Mr. Twelve
Mr. Thirteen	Mr. Fourteen
Mr. Fifteen	Mr. Sixteen
Mr. Seventeen	Mr. Eighteen
Mr. Nineteen	Mr. Twenty
Mr. Twenty One	Mr. Twenty Two
Mr. Twenty Three	Mr. Twenty Four
Mr. Twenty Five	Mr. Twenty Six
Mr. Twenty Seven	Mr. Twenty Eight
Mr. Twenty Nine	Mr. Thirty

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
DAY	FULL RATE CABLE
NIGHT	DEFERRED CABLE
MESSAGE	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
LETTER	WEEK-END CABLE LETTER
RADIOGRAM	RADIOGRAM

Please check class of service desired, otherwise it will be assumed as a full rate communication

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER
CHECK
TIME FILED
STANDARD TIME

Form 2

The following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Pittsburgh Penna
Feb 11 1933

J.M. Keith
United States Bureau of Investigation
Hurley Wright Bldg
Washington D.C.

Hobart Rakes miscellaneous forgery no indictment out standing
against Rakes Southern district West Va

Stevens

c.c. Bureau ✓

73-2272	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 14 1933 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. One	FILE

WESTERN UNION

CHARGE U.S. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
511 Hurley-Wright Building,
Washington, D. C.

February 11 1933

G. A. STEVENS
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1806 LAW AND FINANCE BUILDING
PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA

ROBERT RAYES MISCELLANEOUS FORGERY ASCERTAIN IMMEDIATELY IF INDICTMENT
OUTSTANDING AGAINST RAYES SOUTHERN DISTRICT WEST VIRGINIA

HENRY ACTING

LFO:AMP.
cc-Bureau.
65-2416.

73-2272	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 13 1933 A.M.	
RECEIVED	FILE

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**

FILE NO. **62-798 MLP**

REPORT MADE AT Birmingham, Ala.	DATE WHEN MADE 2-7-35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/23-2/3/35	REPORT MADE BY J.S. JOHNSON
TITLE ROBERT RAKES, ET AL.		CHARACTER OF CASE FORGERY OF NAME OF JAMES DAMRON, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY.	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS Correspondence record of Rakes at Atlanta Penitentiary reported herein.			

Letters Received

RUC

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent H.A. Bangert, Pittsburgh, Pa. 1-17-35.

DETAILS: AT ATLANTA, GA.

Robert Rakes, #9235 was received at the U.S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, 2-23-29. On 3-6-30 he was transferred to Alderson, West Virginia and on 7-3-30 he was received at Federal Prison Camp #6, Wrightstown, N.J., by transfer from Alderson. On 10-29-30 he was paroled from Wrightstown and on 12-22-30 he was declared a parole violator. On 9-16-31 he was again received at the U.S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, his probable date of release now being 2-12-34.

His correspondence record reflected that in March 1930 he corresponded with his wife Mrs. Robert Rakes, Box 663, Williamson, West Virginia. Beginning in September, 1931, after his return he continued to correspond voluminously with his wife and wrote a great many letters also to a Cousin, Miss Betty Louise Maxey, Willas, Va. In addition the following letters were sent and received on the dates reported;

Letters Sent

Honorable Hugh Ike Shutt, U.S. Congress, Bluefield, W. Va. 9-22-31 & 8-4-32
 Chief of Police, Williamson, W. Va. 7-8-32
 Fred Smith, Snowville, Va. 9-28-31 & 11-21-31
 Mrs. J. Lowry, Charlotte, N.C. 5/31 & 6/13/32
 U.S. Attorney, Huntington, W. Va. 10/8/31 & 6/24/32

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	73-2272-18	RECORDED AND INDEXED FEB 10 1935
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2 Bureau 2 Pittsburgh 1 U.S. Atty. Charleston, W. Va. 2 Birmingham		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FEB 9 - 1935 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: <i>[Signature]</i>	CHECKED OFF: FEB 12 1935 JACKETED

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**

Pittsburgh

FILE NO. **62-650**

REPORT MADE AT: Pittsburgh, Pa.	DATE WHEN MADE: 1/25/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1/22/33	REPORT MADE BY: W. H. HENWOOD
TITLE: HOBART RAKES et al			CHARACTER OF CASE: MISCELLANEOUS - (FORGERY OF NAME OF JAMES DAMRON, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY)
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Specimens of typing obtained from typewriters in the offices of the United States Attorney at Charleston, W. Va., and Huntington, W. Va.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent H. A. Bangert, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1/19/33 and wire from Washington Field Office dated 1/20/33.</p> <p>DETAILS: AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.:</p> <p>Agent interviewed Mrs. McGomas, stenographer in the office of the United States Attorney, Charleston, W. Va., who advised that four of the typewriters, which were in the office of former United States Attorney Damron at Huntington, W. Va., during 1931, were now in the office of the United States Attorney at Charleston, W. Va., and that one of the typewriters was in the office of the United States Attorney at Huntington, West Virginia.</p> <p>Agent obtained specimens of typing from the four machines in the office of the United States Attorney in Charleston, W. Va.,</p> <p>DETAILS: While at the United States Attorney's Office in Charleston, W. Va., Agent was advised by Assistant United States Attorney Matheny that, during conversation with Earl Lilly, brother of Mack Lilly, former defendant in a National Prohibition Conspiracy case, he had learned that before trial Mack Lilly had obtained a copy of all letters and documents relative to the case of HOBART RAKES, written by United States Attorney Damron; that Earl Lilly had not known who had furnished Mack Lilly with the copies.</p>			
DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> Acting Special Agent in Charge	73-272-17 UNITED STATES		RECORDED AND INDEXED: JAN 27 1933
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau Washington Field <i>was one not the</i> Birmingham U. S. Atty., Charleston, W. Va. Pittsburgh		JAN 26 1933 AM BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO:	CHECKED OFF: FEB 2 1933 <i>[Initials]</i>

- 2 -

Mr. Matheny further stated that it was his opinion that these copies had been furnished to Mack Lilly by Elsie Lockridge.

AT HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

A specimen of typing from the typewriter in the office of the United States Attorney at Huntington, W. Va., was also obtained.

Attached to copies of this report are specimens of typing from the following typewriters in use by the United States Attorney's Office at the time instant violation occurred.

Typewriter #729048-12 in the office at Huntington, W. Va.

Typewriters #3572661-5; 2353163-5; 3726955-5; and 729035-12 in the office at Charleston, West Virginia.

There is also attached for the benefit of the Washington Field Office, a copy of reference report.

- UNDEVELOPED LEADS -

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE will cause the specimens of typing to be compared with the original letter herein involved, as implied by telegram from that office dated 1/20/33.

THE BIRMINGHAM OFFICE will complete lead as set out in reference report.

THE PITTSBURGH OFFICE will complete leads as set out in reference report.

At CHARLESTON, W. VA., will ascertain the present whereabouts of Mack Lilly so he may be questioned as to his knowledge of copies of letters and documents regarding instant case, which he obtained prior to his trial at Charleston.

- PENDING -

7
323
1-6

PITTSBURGH BUREAU OFFICE
(Name and address of Contributor)

Date DECEMBER 5, 1932

Mr. J. E. Hoover,
Director, Bureau of Investigation.
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

RE: HOBART RAKES
MISCELLANEOUS (FORGERY OF NAME OF
JAMES DAMRON, U. S. ATTORNEY)

Dear Sir:-

Following are the dispositions of cases on which
fingerprints have been mailed to the Bureau of Investiga-
tion:

Print Number	Name and Alias	Disposition
U. S. Pen., At- lanta, Ga. #29235	<i>8 MP 17 cm.</i> HOBART RAKES	Convicted U.S. Dist. Court, S. Dist. W. Va., 3-13-29, charge, violation Internal Revenue Act, sentence 4 years, USP, Atlanta, Ga. Pen. #29235.
Bluesfield, W. Va. P. D.	HOBART RAKES	Arrested 12-9-30, charge, possession of liquor, fined \$150.00.
Christiansburg, Va. P. D.	HOBART RAKES	Arrested 9-11-31, charge parole vio- lator, returned USP, Atlanta, Ga., 9-16-31.

This form to be submitted to the Bureau of Investi-
gation to report dispositions of cases in which prints were
forwarded previously. Dispositions include such information
as advice relative to sentences imposed, fines, discharges
from custody, etc. Several cases may be listed on each sheet.

Very truly yours,

3x3 day
Special Agent in Charge
(Official Title)

WHH:IN
62-650

73-2272
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 7 1932 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

POSTAL

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
311 HURLEY-WRIGHT BUILDING
WASHINGTON D C

JANUARY 20 1933

C. A. STEVENS
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1206 LAW AND FINANCE BUILDING
PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA

HOBART RAKES MISCELLANEOUS FORGERY DAMRON IN

LETTER TO PAROLE BOARD STATES FOUR TYPEWRITERS IN USE HIS OFFICE
DECEMBER TENTH NINETEEN THIRTYONE FORWARD IMMEDIATELY SPECIMEN
TYPEWRITING FROM EACH MACHINE

LITTLE ACTING

LPO:CF
1:40 P.M.
File No. 62-2416

CC Bureau ✓

JAN 20 1933

RECEIVED

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73-2272
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 20 1933
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Egan
Mr. Fox
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

WM:ED
73-2272-16

RECORDED

JAN 24 1933

January 23, 1933.

Chairman,
Board of Parole,
Washington, D. C.

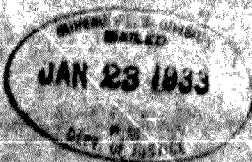
Dear Sir:

With further reference to the Bureau's investigation of a forged letter addressed to the Parole Board, containing the name of former United States Attorney James Durren, in connection with the application of Robert Baker, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent H. A. Bengert, dated January 17, 1933, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,

Enc. #326061.

Director.



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**

Pittsburgh FILE NO. **62-850**

REPORT MADE AT: Pittsburgh, Pa.	DATE WHEN MADE: 1/17/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1/8-17/33	REPORT MADE BY: H. A. RANGERT
TITLE: CHANGED: HOBART RAKES ELECIA E. LOCKRIDGE			CHARACTER OF CASE: MISCELLANEOUS (FORGERY OF NAME OF JAMES DAMRON, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

MRS. ELECIA E. LOCKRIDGE, one time Secretary for James Damron, former United States Attorney, Huntington, W. Va., admits furnishing stationery of the United States Attorney, upon which instant forged letter was written. Attorney Tom Dougherty believed to have written the letter.

-P-

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent W. H. Heywood, Pittsburgh, Pa., 12/8/32.

DETAILS:

AT HUNTINGTON, W. VA.:

Agent interviewed Hon. James Damron, former United States Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia, and now engaged in private practice in the First Huntington National Bank Bldg., at Huntington.

Mr. Damron stated that he had four stenographers in his office when he was United States Attorney. Among them was **MRS. ELECIA E. LOCKRIDGE**, who was his private secretary, took all his dictation, was efficient, capable, and apparently trustworthy, having been with him for a number of years.

DETAILS:

There is an attorney in Huntington named Tom Dougherty, termed by Mr. Damron as a "shyster" lawyer. He practices law with his father, who was disbarred from Federal practice in the Southern District.

According to Mr. Damron, **MRS. LOCKRIDGE** became intimate with Dougherty, a marriage took place. He, Dougherty, practiced some in Federal Court.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>H. A. R. Stern</i> Acting SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	73-2272-16 UNITED STATES JAN 18 1933 A M BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: <i>[initials]</i>	RECORDED AND INDEXED JAN 19 1933 CHECKED OFF JAN 24 1933 JACRETEN
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau: <i>2</i> Birmingham: <i>1</i> U. S. Atty. Charleston, W. Va.: <i>1</i> Pittsburgh: <i>2</i> <i>Copy made per 1-23-33</i>		

A liquor case, known as the Mack Lilly, Vincent case, was tried in Federal Court at the Charleston, W. Va., April 1932 Term. During the trial, an affidavit, made by Mrs. Arthur Vincent, and which had been furnished to the United States Attorney, was seen in possession of the attorney for the defense. Vincent later made a statement to the effect that Tom Dougherty had obtained a copy of this affidavit from Mrs. Lockridge. She, Mrs. Lockridge later confessed to Mr. Damron that she had made a copy of this affidavit and furnished same to Tom Dougherty, for which she received \$3.50. Mrs. Lockridge was dismissed by Mr. Damron.

As noted in the initial report on this matter, a brief resume is given relative to the conviction of RAKES on a liquor violation, his subsequent parole, and the revocation of this parole and his return to the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Va., to complete a four year sentence.

Mr. Damron asserted that under date of December 8, 1931, he received a letter from RAKES, then confined in the Penitentiary. This letter set forth certain statements by RAKES, declaring his innocence.

Mr. Damron replied to the above letter, under date of December 10, 1931, the dictation being taken by Mrs. Lockridge. The contents of this letter of December 10, 1931, is set forth in full in the report of reference, it being noted briefly that Mr. Damron denied the innocence of RAKES and set forth facts disclosing his guilt.

After Mr. Damron retired as United States Attorney, and under date of July 28, 1932, he received a letter from William S. Maynard, Parole Officer, United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga., the contents of which is set forth in the report of reference, wherein Mr. Maynard notes that the letter of Mr. Damron, dated December 10, 1931, clearly indicates the innocence of RAKES.

This letter came as a surprise to Mr. Damron, as his letter of December 10, 1931, had not indicated the innocence of RAKES, but to the contrary, specifically declared his guilt.

Mr. Damron immediately wrote to Mr. Maynard, requesting a copy of his December 10th letter, which was forwarded to him. The letter was on the stationery of the United States Attorney, the same stationery as used by this office on official Government business. Mr. Damron stated that his name was signed to the letter. He stated it was his signature, but he

did not put it there, and the alleged facts as set forth in the letter were false and made to mislead the Parole Board.

Mr. Dameron wrote Mr. Maynard, under date of August 5, 1932, requesting that Hakes be questioned as to where he got this letter. He received no reply from Mr. Maynard and again wrote him under date of August 23, 1932. He received no reply and again wrote him on September 6, 1932. Under date of September 20, 1932, Mr. Dameron received a letter from Mr. Maynard, stating he had interviewed HAKES, who steadfastly maintained that he received the letter through the regular channels of mail and had no reason to question the genuineness of the letter.

Mr. Dameron then communicated with United States Attorney D. D. Ashworth, at Charleston, W. Va., requesting the matter be investigated.

He then called Mrs. Lockridge into his office, displayed the photostatic copy of the forged letter to her and told her she "was crooked" and accused her of preparing this letter. She denied it and examined the letter and stated that she was satisfied that he, Mr. Dameron, had not written this letter, as it did not carry the salutation "Dear Sir", nor bear the initials of the stenographer. She stoutly denied any knowledge relative to this letter, how the stationery of the United States Attorney was obtained, or who wrote the letter and forged the name of Mr. Dameron.

Mr. Dameron advised agent that he did not have the photostatic copy of this letter, but had mailed same to the United States Attorney at Charleston, W. Va.

Agent communicated with Mr. Ashworth, United States Attorney at Charleston, and stated that he would forward this copy to agent at Huntington.

Upon receipt of this photostatic copy, which bears a black background, agent took same to G. Rose, Identification Bureau, Huntington Police Department. The fingerprint of agent was placed in the lower left corner of this copy and covered with powder, which brought the print out. It was brushed and the print then appeared to have been photocopied from the original letter.

Agent ascertained that Mrs. Lockridge was employed by Lee Beuhring in the First Huntington National Bank Building. Communication was had with her by telephone and an appointment made to meet her at her office.

Agent exhibited to Mrs. Lockridge the photostatic copy of the forged letter and inquired of her if she could furnish any information as to how this stationery got out of the United States Attorney's Office. She stated that she was at a loss to explain this; that she has been thinking about the matter, and had no idea who wrote the letter, nor how the person got the stationery. She had given no one any stationery, nor furnished any information to anyone relative to this matter, although she knew about the Rakes case.

Agent informed Mrs. Lockridge that a fingerprint had been found on the letter. The print was exhibited to her; further, that this print appears on the part of the paper where the finger would be placed to remove it from the desk drawer. Agent also reminded her that her prints had been taken when she entered Civil Service. Agent informed her that certain statements had been made in this case and that a certain stenographer in the Office of the United States Attorney had furnished the above stationery and that the fingerprint thereon was identical with the print of this stenographer.

Without any hesitation, Mrs. Lockridge made the following oral statement to agent, which she wrote up in the form of a statement on her typewriter and signed and handed to agent. It reads as follows:

Huntington, W. Va.,
January 12, 1933

"I, Mrs. Elsie E. Lockridge, make the following voluntary statement to H. A. Hanger, whom I knew to be a Special Agent of the United States Bureau of Investigation.

"Sometimes during the latter part of the September Term of United States District Court at Huntington, West Virginia, Thomas G. Daugherty, an attorney at Huntington, came into the office of United States Attorney, where I was employed at that time, and said:

"Lockridge, give me two or three sheets of paper.
I want to make some notes."

"When this request was made, I was very busy, due to the fact that court was in session, so I reached in the drawer where I kept the stationery and handed two or three sheets of paper to Mr. Daugherty. It was my intention to hand him

(STATEMENT OF MRS. ELECIA E. LOCKRIDGE)

"plain paper but evidently handed him a letter head of the United States Attorney, by mistake. I had no idea of what he wanted with the paper other than his statement to me, above quoted.

(signed) (Mrs) Elecia E. Lockridge"

Witness: (signed) H. A. Bangert, Special Agent,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
1206 Law & Finance Bldg.,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania"

Mrs. Lockridge stoutly maintained that she had no knowledge as to who wrote this letter or who forged Mr. Damron's name to it.

A detailed examination of this letter is made herewith to disclose several apparent important leads.

It is noted that this letter is dated December 10, 1931, the date Mr. Damron wrote his genuine letter to RAKES, then in the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ge. The person who wrote the forged letter knew the date of the genuine letter. The genuine letter was dictated by Mr. Damron to Mrs. Lockridge.

It is also noted that the forged letter states, "I have your letter of the 2nd". Mr. Damron had actually received a letter from RAKES on December 2, 1931, and the person who wrote the forged letter knew of the letter from RAKES under date of December 2nd.

The forged letter contains the following, "I am glad to advise you that since I answered your letter of October 8th" etc. Mr. Damron actually received a letter from RAKES, dated October 8th, 1931. It is clear that the person who wrote this forged letter knew of the October 8th letter.

The information contained in the forged letter could only be obtained through two sources, namely from the file on this RAKES matter in the office of the United States Attorney at Charleston, (then Huntington),

or from RAKES, himself. RAKES is said not to be the type person who could prepare such a letter. It is not likely he would remember the dates he wrote to Mr. Dameron.

It is further noted that at the end of the second line, second paragraph of this letter, it reads as follows, "and I now convinced" etc., it being noted that the word "am" is omitted and should read "and I AM now convinced". Mr. Dameron stated to agent that Mrs. Lockridge would not permit a letter to leave the office with this error, which leads to the belief that she did not write the letter, but furnished the stationery to Tom Dougherty, who prepared same, as it is stated that Dougherty represented RAKES in this parole matter.

The forged letter appears to have been written on an Underwood typewriter with the same style type as used in the Office of the United States Attorney. When interrogated relative to this, Mr. Dameron stated that this letter may have been written during January 1932, at which time the entire Court and force of the United States Attorney were absent from Huntington, with the exception of Mrs. Lockridge, and that Dougherty may have examined the file on the RAKE matter in the office of the United States Attorney and prepared the letter himself in the office on one of the typewriters.

The Birmingham Bureau Office is being requested to examine the dates of correspondence received and forwarded by RAKES from the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., to determine if he had been corresponding with Dougherty.

It is believed that a subsequent interview with Mrs. Lockridge will result in a full disclosure relative to this matter. She is being carried in the title of this report.

Agent describes Mrs. Lockridge as follows:

Name:	ELEOLA E. LOCKRIDGE	Teeth:	good, several missing
Age:	20 years		left side of face, upper.
Height:	5'4"	Complexion:	Medium
Weight:	120 lbs.	Color:	White
Build:	Medium	Nationality:	American born
Hair:	Light brown, bobbed.	Marital:	Husband dead; two children.
Eyes:	Blue and gray	Parents:	Reside in Huntington, W. Va.
		Occupation:	Public stenographer.

- UNDEVELOPED LEADS -

THE BIRMINGHAM OFFICE, at ATLANTA, GA., will examine the correspondence file relative to ROBERT RAKES, now confined in this institution, and determine the names of all persons with whom Rakes has corresponded and the dates thereof.

THE PITTSBURGH OFFICE, at HUNTINGTON, W. VA., upon receipt of the names of persons with whom Rakes corresponded, and if the name of Attorney Tom Dougherty does not appear on the list, Mr. Damon has requested these names be furnished to him, as he believes he can select the name of the persons who contacted Dougherty for Rakes.

Will again interview Mrs. Elsie E. Lockridge in an effort to obtain further information which it is believed she is withholding.

Will then consider the advisability of questioning Tom Dougherty, Attorney at Law, relative to this matter.

- PENDING -

73-2272-15

RECORDED

JAN 23 1933

January 20, 1933.

Chairman, Boards of Parole,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

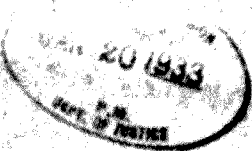
Supplementing my memorandum of December 10, 1933, forwarding to you a copy of the report of Special Agent W. H. Raywood of the Pittsburgh Office of this Bureau concerning Hobart Baker, who is alleged to have presented a letter bearing the forged signature of former United States Attorney James Dameron, Southern District of West Virginia, Huntington, West Virginia, I enclose herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent J. E. Johnson of the Birmingham Office of this Bureau dated January 13, 1933.

An agent of the local Bureau office will call at your office for the purpose of obtaining the information set out under undeveloped lead on the second page of the enclosed report.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl. #338891



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Pittsburgh, Pa.**

FILE NO. **62-762 RM**

REPORT MADE AT: Birmingham, Ala.	DATE WHEN MADE: 1-13-33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1-8-33	REPORT MADE BY: J. P. Johnson.
TITLE: ROBERT RAKES			CHARACTER OF CASE: MISCELLANEOUS - Forgery of name of James Damron, United States Attorney.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Robert Rakes, #29235, U.S.P., Atlanta, Ga., denies that he ever forged the name of Damron to any letter whatever. Original papers forwarded to the Parole Board, Washington, D.C. Copy of subject's signature obtained.

A.U.C.

REFERENCE:

Report of Sp. Agt. W. H. Heywood, Pittsburgh, Pa., 12-5-32.

DETAILS:

At Atlanta, Ga.

Agent interviewed William S. Maynard, Parole Officer, United States Penitentiary, who stated that he recalled the case of Robert Rakes, and that some question had come up with respect to the revocation of the latter's parole. He stated that he interviewed Rakes as to the alleged forgery of the name of James Damron, former United States Attorney, and Rakes denied that there was anything irregular about the letter of December 10, 1931 and that Damron had sent it to him in regular course of mail. To the best of his recollection, the letter of December 10, 1931 from Damron to Rakes was handed to him, but he does not know by whom. He further is of the opinion that it bore an inspection stamp showing that it came in to the prison in regular course of mail. All original documents in the case have been sent to the Parole Board in Washington, D.C., and will have to be inspected there. A photostatic copy of the letter in question was mailed to Mr. Damron at his request, and should now be in his possession. After this was done, Mr. Damron admitted that the signature appeared to be his own. Mr. Maynard stated that the signature to the letter in question was very much like the other bona fide letters signed by Mr. Damron, and if he did not write it, it might have been sent through for his signature and signed without reading. So that as it may, on June 18, 1932 Mr. Damron wrote a letter to Rakes stating that he had recommended to the Department the release on parole of ~~ART WILLIAMS~~ ~~WILLIAMS~~ for

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

73-2272-15

RECORDED AND INDEXED

JAN 17 1933

FILED

JAN 23 1933

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:
2 Bureau
2 Pittsburgh - Enc.
2 Washington-Enc. 1 U.S. Atty. Charleston, W. Va.
2 Birmingham

JAN 16 1933 A.M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAILED 10

FILE

Jan 16

1933

violation of the National Prohibition Act who had served one year, including the statement, "This of course will include you."

About August 23, 1932, Rakes submitted an undated statement to Mr. Maynard relating in minute detail his dealings with Mr. Damron over a period of years and dwelling on the political situation in which he, Rakes, figured as well as Mr. Damron. Rakes claims a frame-up and that he lost his freedom on parole through no fault of his own. He was unable to assign any particular motive Mr. Damron might have to deny sending a letter such as the one of December 10, and then deny that he had sent it. This statement is on file with the Parole Board in Washington.

Hobart Rakes, #29235 was interviewed, and stated that the letter in question, as well as others, were received by him from Mr. Damron and that as far as he knows the letter of December 10th was bona fide, coming in regular course of mail and inspected. He was asked if he knew anyone in the office of the District Attorney in Charleston, W. Va. and stated that he did not know the clerical help, Elsie Lockridge included. He was positive in his statement that he had used no one to procure the letter in question in order to regain his good time. At Agent's request, Rakes submitted samples of his handwriting including the signatures of himself and Mr. Damron, which will be found attached to Pittsburgh copies of this report. Rakes tries to make it appear that he was innocently arrested and returned to prison, but cannot say what motive may have prompted his alleged enemies nor could he state why Mr. Damron should write and deny the letter of December 10th.

UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE, at the office of the Parole Board, Washington, will secure the original letter dated December 10, 1931 from James Damron to Hobart Rakes, and forward same to the Pittsburgh Office. If the original is not obtainable, a photostatic copy should be secured.

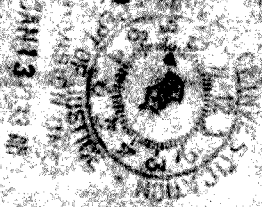
For the further information of the Pittsburgh Office, it might be advisable to secure a copy of subject's undated statement, and forward with the letter.

A copy of reference report is attached to this report for the Washington Field Office.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

1206 Law and Finance Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

January 11, 1933



Special Agent in Charge,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
201 Liberty National Life Building,
Birmingham, Alabama

Dear Sir:

RE: ROBERT BAKER - MICHIGAN
(Forgery of name of James Douglas
United States Attorney)

Your attention is invited to the above entitled case, and more especially to the report of Special Agent, W. H. Heywood, dated Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, December 3, 1932, wherein a lead is set out for your office at Atlanta, Georgia.

It is requested that this lead be given attention as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

G. A. HEYWOOD, Acting
Special Agent in Charge

GAS:VC
cc: Heywood
cc: SAC

73-2012

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 13 1933	
FBI - PITTSBURGH	

John, Ohio

VSP:RO

December 10, 1932

73-2272-14

RECORDED

DEC 12 1932

Chairman, Boards of Parole,
Washington, D. C.

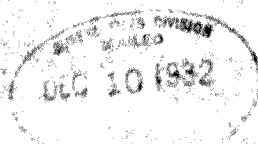
Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith for your information a copy of the report of Special Agent W. H. Heywood dated at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, December 5, 1932, relating to Hobart Hakes, who is alleged to have presented a letter bearing the forged signature of former United States Attorney James Dameron, Southern District of West Virginia, Huntington, West Virginia, in an effort to obtain parole from the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl. #235131



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**

Pittsburgh File No. **65-680**

REPORT MADE AT: PITTSBURGH, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 12-8-32	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 11-22-32	REPORT MADE BY: W. H. REYWOOD
---	-----------------------------------	---	---

TITLE: HOBART RAKES <i>0</i>	CHARACTER OF CASE: MISCELLANEOUS (FORGERY OF NAME OF JAMES DAMRON, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY)
---	--

SYNOPSIS:

Letter bearing forged signature of James Damron, former United States Attorney, used by Subject in effort to obtain parole from the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga.

DETAILS:

AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.

This investigation is predicated upon request of United States Attorney David Ashworth, who had received a letter from former United States Attorney James Damron, in which letter Mr. Damron stated that Subject had presented to the parole supervisor a letter dated December 10, 1931 allegedly written by Mr. Damron to Subject **HOBART RAKES**, which letter contained information that Mr. Damron, after the return of **HOBART RAKES** to the penitentiary as a parole violator, had received information that the facts upon which Subject **HOBART RAKES** was returned to the penitentiary were false, and that he, therefore, recommended that **RAKES** be released on parole; that this letter was false but bore his signature or a very good forgery.

For the purpose of clarity information contained in Pittsburgh File #73-189, entitled **HOBART RAKES, Parole Violator**, is being herein set forth.

HOBART RAKES was sentenced in the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia on March 12, 1929 on a charge of conspiracy to violate the Internal Revenue Act, to serve four years in the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. Subject **HOBART RAKES** was released on parole on 10-29-30 and his parole was declared violated and a warrant issued for his arrest on 12-23-30. **HOBART RAKES** was arrested at Christiansburg, Va. on 9-11-31 and was returned to the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. on 9-16-31.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W. H. Reywood</i>	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: BIRMINGHAM U. S. Attorney, Charleston, W. Va. Pittsburgh	RECORDED AND INDEXED DEC 8 1932 DEC 7 - 1932 A M DEC 12 1932
DISPOSITION SHEET		

PAGE 2

Agent reviewed the Prohibition Violation file on Subject ROBERT RAKES, which file is in the United States Attorney's Office at Charleston, W. Va. This file contains a letter, dated July 12, 1932, addressed to Mr. James Damon, Attorney, former U. S. Attorney, Huntington, W. Va., and signed by William S. Maynard, Parole Officer, United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga., which letter is as follows:

"Robert Rakes, #29235-1

"The above named has presented to this office your letter of December 10th, 1931, your letter of June 18th, 1932, and several letters of an exchange of correspondence between he and one Charlie White.

"Of course, your letter of December the 10th, clearly indicates Rakes is innocent of the charge for which he was returned as a Parole Violator, yet the apparent false acquiescences made by White placed Subject in position to have his parole revoked.

"White at this late date has apparently realized his mistake as evidenced by his letter to Rakes of March 2nd, in which he pleads forgiveness, and further states that the real facts have finally come to light and that he was awaiting sentence for the crime that he had tried to pass on to Rakes. We further understand White has been sentenced to Chillicothe for a term of fifteen months.

"This entire matter tends to be quite complicated through the efforts of White to pass the buck to Rakes, altho the only direct charge made against Rakes for which he was returned, was the paying of a fine in Bluefield, that would indicate conviction, which as yet has not been proven.

"It is our desire to get the complete facts of this matter, and therefore would thank you to write us the complete details.

"Franked self addressed envelope is enclosed for your reply".

The file also contains a letter dated July 14, 1932, signed by James Damon and addressed to William S. Maynard, Parole Officer, United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga., which is as follows:

PAGE 3

RE: HOBART

#29235-1

I have your letter of inquiry of the 12th inst. I note the second paragraph of your letter which reads:

"Of course your letter of December the 10th, clearly indicates Rakes is innocent of the charge for which he was returned as a parole violator, yet the apparent false acquisitions as by White placed Subject in position to have a parole revoked."

I am no longer District Attorney and don't have access to the office file in this case, but from memory I think you are mistaken as to the contents of my letter of December 10th. In other words, you have a letter as of that date which indicates the innocence of Rakes, it was not written by me. I have said to Rakes that I sympathized with him, and would like to see him released when he has been sufficiently punished, but knowing the facts as I do, I can't say that he was innocent, and my letter of December 10th, don't indicate it. I wish you would send me a copy of this letter, and point out wherein I indicated that Rakes was innocent of the charge.

The file further contains a letter signed by William S. Maynard, Parole Officer, addressed to Mr. James Damm, Attorney, Huntington, W. Va., dated July 28, 1932, in which Mr. Maynard enclosed a photostatic copy of letter presented by Subject Hobart Rakes to the Parole Officer for the purpose of obtaining a parole. This letter is as follows:

Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Southern District of West Virginia
Huntington

December 10, 1931

Mr. Hobart Rakes,
P. S. Box #1733,
Atlanta, Georgia

- I have your letter of the 2nd, regarding your parole violation.
- I am glad to advise you that since I answered your letter of October

PAGE 4

"Sth, I have made a very careful investigation of your case, and I am now convinced with proof that your statement to me in your letter of October 8th, was true, and that the statements made against you by the Chief of Police of Bluefield, W. Va., and Charley White of Dingess, W. Va., has been proven false.

" Due to the true facts and circumstances surrounding your case I feel that it is now my duty to advise you that the indictment made by the Chief of Police of Bluefield, W. Va., will not longer stand against you, as I have no desire for any man to serve further time in prison for that which he is innocent of.

" You asked me if it would be necessary for you to have affidavits sent to me by Charley White, and Carl Rochel, and the Chief of Police of Bluefield, W. Va. It will not be necessary as I am now fully convinced that you are innocent of the charge, and that it was false reports which caused your retaking

" I am also aware of the fact that Charley White made a false statement against you to clear himself. I also learn that the Chief of Police of Bluefield was discontinued due to the fact that the public did not approve of his false statements.

" Due to the circumstances in your case I hereby recommend that you be released on parole and given another chance.

" This letter is self explanatory, and you can present same to the Warden, and also the Parole Board, which will undoubtedly assist you in having your parole restored. I also assure the Honorable Parole Board that an early release for you will meet with my approval.

" I want you to know that I have a very kind feeling for you, and that I am sorry that you have met with such foul play.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) James Dameron
James Dameron
United States Attorney".

Upon receipt of the photostatic copy, Mr. Dameron requested of United States Attorney David Ashworth a copy of the letter which he had originally written to Subject Robert Rakes on December 10, 1931, which was forwarded to Mr. Dameron.

The file in the United States Attorney's Office further contains a

PAGE 5

copy of the original letter written by James Dameron, United States Attorney to Mr. Robert Rakes, Box # 1735, Atlanta, Ga., which letter is as follows:

"I have your letter of the 8th and note carefully what you say. I know nothing of the charge against Mr. Hertzig nor have I taken any interest in the matter. I was sorry that you got into trouble and had to return to the penitentiary after you had been given an opportunity by the Parole Board to make good.

"Of course, the facts as detailed in your letter are not in keeping with the true facts or at least as shown from affidavits and reports I have. The information of the Chief of Police of Bluefield, who made the indictment against you, your brother-in-law, Rockel, and your step-brother, Charley White, was that he seized the car of liquor in a garage in Bluefield, the car belonging to your wife, placed you three in jail and that you put up \$400.00 cash bond and left your wife's car in his possession. That neither of you made any appearance to the bond and that you had never called for the car. This indictment is still pending against you three at Bluefield, charging you with transporting liquor from Virginia to West Virginia. Charley White was arrested after the indictment was made, the officers being unable to get you or Rakes, and he (Charley White) made an affidavit to the effect that you three had been bringing liquor from Virginia, Franklin County, to West Virginia and that this one which was seized was either the third or fourth load; that you three went from Williamsport to Bluefield two or three days before you were caught; that you stayed there at a boarding house to take orders for the liquor so that delivery could be made as soon as they returned with it. That they went to the same place in Virginia, got the load of liquor and returned to Bluefield, putting the car and liquor in the garage where you had made arrangements. That the Chief of Police found this out and arrested you three together. That while you were confined in jail you asked the police what bond he would release you three on, that he told you if you would put up \$400.00 in cash and leave the car with him he would let you out on bond; that you sent a telegram to Williamson and the \$400.00 came the same day or the next, to you, and that you, yourself, gave him the money. Knowing the other two fellows as I do and as you know, (they are associates of yours) you must have put up this \$400.00 because they never had that much in their lives. Furthermore, after you were released by the police from the Bluefield case you returned to Williamson after which your home and garage were searched by the State Police, a large amount of liquor found in the garage, and after you were arrested and on your way to jail you took "foot ball", crossing the River into Kentucky and leaving the jurisdiction of the Court of West Virginia. Thereafter the State Police for months attempted to locate you but

PAGE 6

"unable to do so. As stated before, I have known you ever since you came to West Virginia. You are a likeable fellow and I do not know why it is that you still want to fool with liquor. I never knew you to drink, but you, of course, will admit that you have made and sold it for years."

The letter dated December 10, 1931 was written to Subject RAKES in reply to a letter written by HOBART RAKES to Mr. Damron on December 8, 1931, in which letter HOBART RAKES stated that he had received information regarding false statements made against him, and that Charley White, Carl Rockel and the former Chief of Police of Bluefield would make affidavits stating that he, RAKES, was not connected with Rockel and White in the whiskey business, and that he, RAKES, had not paid a fine or put up a bond in Bluefield, W. Va.

Agent interviewed United States Attorney David Ashworth, who stated that former United States Attorney James Damron had talked with him about the forged letter presented by Hobart Rakes to the Parole Officer at the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga., for the purpose of obtaining a parole; that Mr. Damron had advised that the signature, James Damron, appeared to be his original signature; that he had never signed the instant forged letter and was at a loss to understand how they had obtained his signature; that Mr. Damron had further advised that, before retiring as United States Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia, he had been obliged to dismiss his secretary, Elsie Lockridge, because he had ascertained that she had furnished a copy of a statement made by one of the defendants in a case known as the Mack Lilly Prohibition Conspiracy case, to Tom Dougherty, an attorney of Huntington, W. Va., who represented certain defendants in that case; that Mr. Damron understands that Mr. Dougherty has represented RAKES in his recent appeal for parole, and therefore thinks that Elsie Lockridge might be involved to the extent of obtaining stationery from the United States District Attorney's office in the instant matter.

Description of HOBART RAKES as furnished by Pittsburgh Bureau Office file entitled HOBART RAKES, PAROLE VIOLATOR:

Age:	38
Weight:	164
Height:	5' 11 1/2"
Hair:	Black and thin
Nationality:	American
Residence:	Williamson, W. Va.
Occupation:	Coal Miner
Criminal Record:	

Convicted U. S. Dist. Court So. Dist. W. Va., 3-15-29, charge, violation Internal Revenue Act, sentence, 4 years, USP, Atlanta, Ga. Pen. #29235.

PAGE 7

Arrested Bluefield, W. Va., 12-9-30, charge, possession of liquor, fined \$150.

Arrested Christiansburg, Va., 9-11-31, charge parole violator, returned USP
Atlanta, Ga., 9-16-31.

Disposition sheet herewith submitted.

UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

THE BIRMINGHAM BUREAU OFFICE at ATLANTA, GA. is requested to interview William S. Maynard, Parole Officer, United States Penitentiary, relative to the letters and affidavits presented by RAKES for the purpose of obtaining any information he may possess relative to them. A thorough investigation is requested for the purpose of establishing whether the instant forgery was committed within the Penitentiary or sent in from a person on the outside. It is suggested that a person serving a sentence for counterfeiting or forgery may have aided Subject in forging the name of James Damron. It is also requested that a statement be obtained from Subject ascertaining where he obtained the letterhead from the United States Attorney's office, and other details relative to this violation. It is also requested that, if possible, the forged letter be obtained and forwarded to the Pittsburgh Bureau Office so that the signature may be exhibited to James Damron, former United States Attorney.

THE PITTSBURGH BUREAU OFFICE at HUNTINGTON, Cabell County, W. VA. will interview James Damron, Attorney at Law, relative to this matter.

- PENDING -

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
P. O. Box No. 987

November 20, 1931

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

73 - 2272

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated November 10, 1931, advising this office that the administrative report submitted for the month of October indicates that the latest investigative report submitted by this office in the case entitled JOHN T. GARDNER - FUGITIVE, is dated September 15, 1931, and further advising this office that this case was closed by the report submitted by Special Agent, J. M. Heywood, dated October 11, 1931.

I desire to thank you for calling this matter to the attention of this office, inasmuch as the last returned report did not bear reference to the equipment ticket and, accordingly, this ticket did not have been placed in the "Closed" section. This was immediately corrected and the Bureau letter, in closing this report will indicate that the necessary adjustment has been made. Every possible effort will be made to prevent a repetition of errors of this nature.

Very truly yours,

J. E. L. G.

Special Agent in Charge

11-10
72-120

NOV 24 1931

73 - 2272

WIC:EMF
73-2272

November 19, 1931.

Special Agent in Charge,
Bureau of Investigation,
Box 987,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

The administrative report submitted by your office for October indicates that the latest investigative report from your office in the case entitled ROBERT RAKES - Parole Violator, your file #73-120, is dated September 15, 1931.

Your attention is invited to the fact that Special Agent W. H. Heywood of your office submitted a closing report in this case on October 23, 1931.

Very truly yours,

Director.



RECORDED

73-2272-12

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 20 1931 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

RECORDED

OCT 28 1931

WIC:ON
73-2272-11

October 27, 1931.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF PRISONS
ATTENTION: MR. HUFF

In the case entitled HOBERT RAMES
PAROLE VIOLATOR

there are transmitted herewith copies of the following
reports:

Agent
W. H. Heywood

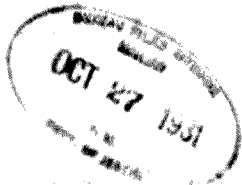
Office
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Date
10-23-31

Very truly yours,

we

Director.



Incl. # 737802

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**

Pittsburgh file No. 73-120

REPORT MADE AT: PITTSBURGH, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 10-23-31	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10-16-31	REPORT MADE BY: W. H. HEYWOOD
TITLE: 0 HOBART RAKES			CHARACTER OF CASE: PAROLE VIOLATOR

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigative activity in the instant case completed. Indictments now pending against Subject charge violation of the National Prohibition Act.

-C-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent J. T. Flournoy, Washington, D. C., 9-30-31.

DETAILS: AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.

Agent conferred with Assistant United States Attorney Keadle, who advised that the indictments now pending against Subject in the District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia will be held pending; that he is uncertain whether or not prosecution will be undertaken. These indictments charge Subject with violation of the National Prohibition Act and in view of the following facts: that investigative activity in the instant case has been completed; that the indictments returned are not within the primary investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, and the investigative work was not performed by this Bureau, this case is

-CLOSED-

DETAILS:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>S. X. [Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau U. S. Attorney, Huntington Pittsburgh		② 1 2	73-2272-11 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OCT 24 1931 A M DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	RECORDED AND INDEXED: OCT 24 1931 CHECKED OFF: OCT 28 1931 JACKETED:
ROUTED TO: <i>Three</i>		FILE <i>WC</i>		

WIC:OM

~~73-2272-9~~

October 6, 1931.

73 -

MEMORANDUM FOR DIVISION SIX

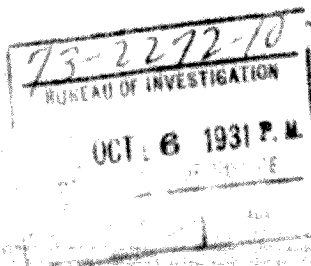
Information has been received to the effect
that subject _____ FUGITIVE.
Index No. _____ was taken into Federal custody at
4043
_____ on _____
Christiansburg, Virginia September 11, 1931.
He is, therefore, no longer wanted by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Director.



RECORDED



WIC:ON
73-2272-9

RECORDED
OCT 7 1931

October 6, 1931.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF PRISONS
ATTENTION: MR. HUFF

In the case entitled HOBART BAKES
PAROLE VIOLATOR

there are transmitted herewith copies of the following
reports

<u>Agent</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>
J. T. Flournoy	Washington, D.C.	9-30-31

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl. #



734706

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Pittsburgh, Pa.**

73-194

RECEIVE

REPORT MADE AT: Washington, D.C.	DATE WHEN MADE: 9/30/31	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 9/22/31	REPORT MADE BY: J.T. Flournoy
TITLE: HOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE			CHARACTER OF CASE: PAROLE VIOLATOR

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject apprehended by State authorities at Christiansburg, Virginia, and turned over to U.S. Marshal at Roanoke, Va., by whom Subject was delivered to the Warden of the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, on September 16, 1931.

R.U.C.

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent F.M. Ames, Pittsburgh, Pa., 9/15/31.

DETAILS:

- At Roanoke, Virginia -

Agent conferred with United States Marshal Lee Brand, who advised that Subject had been arrested on September 11, 1931 by Chief of Police Hangeley of Christiansburg, Virginia, who had been on the lookout for Subject, and that Subject had been turned over to the United States Marshal at Roanoke, Virginia, on the same date. On September 14, the U.S. Marshal received a telegram from Mr. R.L. Hoff, Supervisor of Parole, of the Superintendent of Prison's office, Washington, D.C., directing the Marshal to deliver Subject to the Warden of the Atlanta, Ga. Penitentiary. On September 15, 1931, the U.S. Marshal at Roanoke received a telegram from U.S. Attorney Demron, Huntington, W. Va., suggesting that Subject not be returned to the Southern District of West Virginia for trial on the recent indictments returned against him there, and that he be returned to Atlanta to serve the unexpired term upon which he was paroled. Acting upon instructions received from the Supervisor of Parole, the U.S. Marshal, at Roanoke, delivered Subject to the Warden of Atlanta Federal Penitentiary on September 16, 1931.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

Am. Jacobson
SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

2-Bureau
3-Pitts. (1 U.S. Atty., Huntington, W. Va.)
2-Wash. Field

73-2272-9
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 30 1931 P.M.
ROUTED TO: FILE

RECORDED AND INDEXED

OCT 7 1931

CHECKED OFF
JACKETED

Am. P. Hoff
Mr. Hoff

UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

THE PITTSBURGH OFFICE: Contact the U. S. Attorney's office at Huntington, W. Va. and ascertain whether Subject is to be prosecuted on the indictment pending against him in that district, and whether detainer will be filed for his apprehension and trial upon expiration of his present sentence.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT PITTSBURGH, PA.

PITTSBURGH

FILE NO. 73-120

RECEIVED

REPORT MADE AT: PITTSBURGH, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 9-15-31	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 9-13-31	REPORT MADE BY: F. M. AMES
TITLE: HOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE			CHARACTER OF CASE: PAROLE VIOLATOR

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Information obtained at Williamson, West Virginia that Christiansburg, Virginia local police arrested person named HOBART RAKES, believed identical with Subject.

73-2272

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent W. E. Peters, Pittsburgh, Pa., 8-21-31.

DETAILS:

AT WILLIAMSON, WEST VIRGINIA

Agent interviewed the mail dispatcher at the Post Office and displayed to him a photograph of Subject. This dispatcher stated that it was his opinion that Subject had been arrested by the local police at Christiansburg, Virginia for transportation of liquor and was being held by the police in that city.

Agent interviewed Captain Barton of the West Virginia State Police who confirmed the opinion of the mail dispatcher to the effect that Subject had been arrested in Christiansburg, Virginia and was being held by the local authorities.

A telegram incorporating this information was dispatched to the Pittsburgh Bureau Office.

DETAILS:

Subject is described as follows:

Age ----- 36
Weight -- 164
High Forehead
Nationality - American
Finger Print Classification:

Height ----- 5' 11½"
Hair ----- Black - thin
Occupation - coal miner
Residence: Williamson, W. Va.
13 R GI
21 R GI 14

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

W. E. Peters

Acting

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

Bureau
Washington Field
Pittsburgh

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2
2

ENCL. - WASHINGTON FIELD

73-2272-8
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 16 1931 4 M
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ROUTED TO: FILE

RECORDED AND INDEXED

SEP 17 1931

CHECKED OFF

SEP 18 1931

JACKETED

PAGE 2

RE: HOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE

F. M. AMES

Criminal Record: Sentenced from the Southern District of West Virginia to serve four years in the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia - Prison # 29235.

Photograph and Finger Prints - attached to the Washington Field Office copies of this report.

For the information of the Washington Field Office, Subject was released on Parole October 29, 1930. On December 9, 1930 Subject, accompanied by Carl Rockell and C. L. White, was arrested in Bluefield, W. Va. in possession of eighteen gallons of liquor. On December 20th Subject, Rockell and White were fined \$150 each by the local authorities at Bluefield, W. Va., and released. On December 22, 1930 a warrant was issued for Subject's arrest for the violation of his parole and the same being forwarded to the United States Marshal at Charleston, West Virginia.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE at CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA will contact the local police authorities and ascertain if party in custody is HOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE, Subject of this investigation. If so, will interview Subject relative to the violation of his parole and notify the proper authorities.

- PENDING -

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**

Pittsburgh File No. 73-120

REPORT MADE AT: PITTSBURGH, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 8-21-31	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 8-17-31	REPORT MADE BY: W. E. PETERS
TITLE: ROBERT RAKES - FUGITIVE			CHARACTER OF CASE: PAROLE VIOLATOR

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject arrested at Bluefield, West Virginia, in possession of eighteen gallons of liquor, on December 9, 1930. Fined \$150.00 and released December 20, 1930. Trixie Rakes released from Mercer County Jail on parole June 2, 1931.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent W. H. Heywood, Pittsburgh, Pa., dated 6-24-31.

DETAILS:

AT BLUEFIELD and PRINCETON, WEST VIRGINIA

Agent interviewed Desk Sergeant C. W. Ingham, Bluefield, West Virginia, who advised that subject, in company with Carl Rockall and C. L. White, had been arrested at Bluefield, West Virginia, on December 9, 1930, in possession of eighteen gallons of liquor. Their case was called before Judge L. B. Sutherland on December 20, 1930, at which time each of the three arrested was fined \$150.00. The assessed fine was paid by them and they were released. At the time of their arrest, the local police at Bluefield were not taking fingerprints, and it was not known that subject was a parole violator.

DETAILS:

Sergeant Ingham also stated that at the time of their arrest, Subject Rakes gave as his address Williamson, West Virginia, and Rockall and White gave as their address Dingess, West Virginia. All three are well known to the police at Williamson, West Virginia, and Sergeant Ingham is of the opinion that Deputy Marshall John Hunt has a warrant for subject's arrest for violation of the National Prohibition Act, and that subject previously escaped from Deputy Marshall Hunt by swimming the river at Williamson, West Virginia.

Agent conferred with Sheriff J. O. Bowling, Princeton, West Virginia, who advised that Trixie Rakes had been received at the Mercer

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. E. [Signature]</i> Acting Special Agent in Charge	73-2272-7 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AUG 22 1931 A.M. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: FILE LAW, TRAVEL	RECORDED AND INDEXED AUG 24 1931 CHECKED OFF AUG 26 1931 JACKETED
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau - 2 Pittsburgh - 2		

W.E.H.

County Jail on April 28, 1931, for violation of the State Prohibition Act and was released on parole June 2, 1931. While in custody, Trixie Rakes was frequently visited by Subject Rakes and Subject Rakes called for her in his car and took her away on the day she was released. He did not know where subject had taken her but he was of the opinion that they had returned to their home in Williamson, West Virginia.

- UNDEVELOPED LEADS -

THE PITTSBURGH OFFICE at Williamson, Mingo County, West Virginia, will conduct appropriate investigation among the local authorities to ascertain if subject has returned to his former home in Williamson, West Virginia, or vicinity. Subject gave as his address P. O. Box 633, Williamson, West Virginia.

At Dingess, Mingo County, West Virginia, will conduct discreet, appropriate investigation to ascertain if Carl Rockall and C. L. White have returned to their homes and will ascertain if subject has been seen in their company.

At Lindsey, Mingo County, will interview Mr. James Roberts, subject's parole adviser, and for whom subject worked for some time after his return on parole, and ascertain if Mr. Roberts has any information as to subject's whereabouts.

At Williamson, West Virginia, will interview Mr. Robert Quinn, State Police, who interviewed Subject at his home in Williamson, West Virginia, relative to his arrest in Bluefield, West Virginia, and ascertain if Mr. Quinn has any pertinent information relative to subject's present activities.

- PENDING -

13-2272-6

HMP:KPM

August 27, 1931.

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge,
Bureau of Investigation,
Box #287,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Re: HOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE
PAROLE VIOLATOR

Dear Sir:

As requested in your communication of
August 21, 1931, I am transmitting herewith five
copies of the photograph and fingerprints of the
above mentioned subject.

Very truly yours,
For the Director,

Assistant Director

Enc. #448872.



[Handwritten initials]

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
P. O. Box 987,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

August 21, 1931.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

8/26 EH
RE: MOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE
PAROLE VIOLATOR

73-2272

Dear Sir:

With reference to the above matter, this office will appreciate receipt of, at an early date, five copies of subject's photograph, inclusive of his description, for use in an investigation by this office.

Yours very truly,

J. C. Rider
J. C. Rider,
Acting Special Agent in Charge.

JCR:EEH
73-120

RECORDED

AUG 28 1931

73-2272-6

RECEIVED	
AUG 22 1931 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Mr. Tolson	FILE

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PENNA.**

#73-194

REPORT MADE AT: Washington, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE: 8-11-31	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 7-25/30-31	REPORT MADE BY: J. T. Flourney JA
TITLE: ROBERT RAKES, Fugitive			CHARACTER OF CASE: PAROLE VIOLATOR

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation made at Norton and in Franklin County, Virginia, discloses no information that subject is located in either of these sections.

RUC

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent W. H. Haywood of the Pittsburgh Office dated June 24, 1931.

DETAILS: At Norton and Floyd, Virginia.

Agent conferred with Chief of Police V. W. Warren, of Norton, Virginia, who advises that he is acquainted with every resident of Norton, and there is no family by the name of Rakes living in Norton or vicinity at the present time, and Mr. Warren further advises Agent that no one by the name of Rakes has been a resident of Norton during the past ten years. Agent made inquiry at the Post Office in Norton, and is advised by Postmaster Corder that no one by the name of Rakes has been receiving mail through the Post Office. The reference report does not give the name of subject's uncle who is supposed to be in Norton, and unless his name happened to be Rakes, there is no way to identify him, even though he might be living there. What is known as Shooting Creek is not a town or village, but a rough mountainous section of the country, located partly in Franklin and partly in Floyd County, Virginia, and covers a section about twenty five miles square, located fifty miles southwest of Roanoke, Virginia, and is accessible only by road from Floyd, Virginia. It is a notorious section for bootleggers. Agent conferred with J. W. Hurst and F. L. DeBord, Federal Prohibition Agents, who are stationed at Floyd, and cover the Shooting Creek section, and they advise that subject is not in that section.

Rakes is a common name throughout Franklin and Floyd counties, and Agent is advised there are perhaps twenty families in the two counties of this name. Unless some information is obtained as to subject's mother's name, there

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	RECORDED AND INDEXED
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2 Bureau 2 Pittsburgh 2 Washington Field		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO:	CHECKED OFF INDEXED

- 2 -

is no way to tell whether or not she lives in that section.

Agent finds that the U. S. Marshal's office at Roanoke holds a warrant for the arrest of subject which was issued by United States Commissioner Chas. D. Fox, Jr., of Roanoke, based on the indictment returned against subject at Bluefield, West Virginia, January, 1931, term of Federal Court. Deputy Marshal J. C. Brown has also made investigation at Norton, Dante, St. Paul, and in the Shooting Creek country in Franklin and Floyd Counties, Virginia, and he advises Agent that he could find no information that subject had been at these sections or had any family connections at any of them.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION
TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
P. O. Box 987
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

June 24, 1931

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated May 27, 1931 relative to the case: HOBART
O RAKES - FUGITIVE - PAROLE VIOLATOR, Pittsburgh File
73-120.

It is respectfully requested that
the Pittsburgh and Washington Bureau Offices be furnished with a photograph of Subject as well as his
description.

Very truly yours,

F. X. Fay
F. X. Fay
Acting Special Agent in
Charge.

FXF:IV

73-120

CC: Washington Field

RECORDED

73-2272-4

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 26 1931 A. M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

noted only
JUN 26 1931

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PITTSBURGH, PA.**Pittsburgh FILE NO. **73 - 120**

REPORT MADE AT: PITTSBURGH, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 6-24-31	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6-3-31	REPORT MADE BY: W. H. HEYWOOD
TITLE: ROBERT RAKES - FUGITIVE			CHARACTER OF CASE: PAROLE VIOLATOR

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject last heard from while at Norton, Va.

- P -

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated 5-27-31.

DETAILS: AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.

The file in the office of John W. Bolick, Federal Probation Officer, regarding Subject was reviewed. This file shows that Subject was sentenced at Huntington, W. Va. on 3-29-29 to serve four years in the Federal Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga.; that on 10-29-30 he was released on parole to parole advisor, James Roberts, Lindsey, W. Va.; that in December, 1930 he was arrested at Bluefield, W. Va. for violation of the State Liquor Laws and after posting a bond in the sum of \$450.00 was released; that on 12-22-30 a warrant was issued for Subject's arrest charging violation of parole. The file further shows that in January and February, 1931 Subject wrote to the office of the Supervisor of Paroles from Norton, Va., advising that he had been arrested in Bluefield, W. Va., in connection with the arrest of C. L. White and Carl Rockall and had been released without charges being preferred against him and that the \$450.00 had been paid by White and Rockall.

DETAILS:

John W. Bolick was interviewed and stated that he had made an investigation in an effort to locate Subject but had been unsuccessful.

United States Attorney Damron was interviewed and stated that he had known Subject for several years; that Subject came to West Virginia from Shooting Creek, near Roanoke, Franklin County, Va., and that Subject has an uncle residing at Norton, Va. Mr. Damron further stated that several years ago he defended Subject at Williamson, W. Va. when Subject had been charged with murder

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E. J. Lay</i>	Acting SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	73-2272-3	RECORDED AND INDEXED JUN 26 1931
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau 3 ✓ Washington local 2 Pittsburgh 2		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION JUN 26 1931 A.M. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	FORWARDED OFF JUN 29 1931 RECEIVED
ROUTED TO: <i>Carl Rockall</i>		FILE	

I. W.

PAGE 2

RE: HOBART RAKES - FUGITIVE

W. H. HEYWOOD

and that Subject was acquitted of this charge; that Subject was arrested in 1929 for violation of the National Prohibition Act and shortly after the arrest and before the trial a material witness in the case disappeared causing the rumor that Subject had killed this witness.

Mr. Damron advised that Subject is married and that his wife Trixie (Pridemore) Rakes is at present confined in the jail at Bluefield, W. Va. on a liquor charge.

Deputy United States Marshal Stone was interviewed and stated that Subject had been indicted at Bluefield, W. Va. for violation of the National Prohibition and that a capias had been issued for his arrest on 1-23-31 but that it had not been served upon Subject as he could not be located.

No description of Subject is set forth in this report as none is available at this time.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE is requested to make investigation at Norton, Va., ascertaining the name and address of Subject's uncle who resides there and at Shooting Creek, near Roanoke, Franklin County, Va.; locate and interview Subject's mother and also interview peace officers in vicinity of both places in an effort to locate Subject for apprehension.

THE PITTSBURGH BUREAU OFFICE at Bluefield, W. Va. will interview Trixie Rakes who is at present incarcerated in the City Jail, ascertaining from her the present whereabouts of Subject and her children; will also interview Carl Rockell and C. L. White whose addresses can be obtained from the local police, in an endeavor to ascertain from them the present whereabouts of Subject.

- PENDING -

WIC:TAM
73-2272-1

May 27, 1931

RECORDED

MAY 29 1931

Special Agent in Charge,
Bureau of Investigation,
Box 987,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

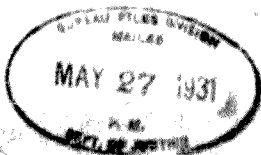
Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith copy of a memorandum dated May 23, 1931, prepared by Frank Loveland, Supervisor of Parole, relative to the case entitled ROBERT RAKES, Fugitive, Parole Violator. Your office is being designated the office of origin in this case, and you are instructed to conduct immediate investigation, with a view to locating and effecting the early apprehension of the above named fugitive.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl. #756133



SANFORD BATES
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BUREAU OF PRISONS

FL-ab

WASHINGTON

MAY 26 1931 AM

MAY 25 1931

73-70
May 23, 1931
RECORDED 73-2272-1

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAY 25 1931 P.M.

MAY 29 1931

The subject is a parole violator fugitive whose location is desired by the Bureau of Prisons. Will you kindly have an investigation made and if subject is apprehended have him taken into custody awaiting further instructions from this Bureau?

Name: Robert Baker	Reg. No. B(29235-A) Inst. Fed. Pris. Ga. Cp. Dix, N.J.
Aliases: none known	Released on parole: October 29, 1930
	Minimum expiration: April 25, 1932
	Maximum expiration: March 28, 1933
Court: Southern Dist. (Suntington) West Va.	Sex: Male Color: White
Offense: Ganap. in vio. Int. Rev. Act	Date of birth: Oct. 16, 1897 Age: 33
Sentence: 4 years	Parole Advisor: James Roberts
Date of Sentence: March 12, 1929	Address: Lindsey, West Virginia
Date received: March 29, 1929	Date of violation: December, 1930
Sentence began: March 29, 1929	Warrant issued: December 23, 1930

Offense for which sentenced: On or about February 13, 1929, subject, along with other co-defendants, conspired to possess and transport eighteen gallons of intoxicating liquor in a Dodge touring car which belonged to subject to a garage adjoining his residence. The report of the District Attorney and the Bureau of Prohibition stated that subject was one of the most notorious bootleggers in Mingo County and that he was supposed to be the brains of the liquor organization which operated under the protection of the county authorities for a number of years. Subject is married and has three children. At the time he was in the institution he admitted several arrests for liquor violations but stated he had never served jail or prison sentence or paid a fine.

Parole history and violation: Upon his release from Camp Dix, N. J., to which he was transferred from the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Ga., he returned to Williamson, West Va., and his parole reports indicate that he was working for his parole advisor, Mr. James Roberts, at Lindsey, West Va. Subject gave his address as P. O. Box 535, Williamson, West Va. On December 12, 1930, this

Misc 4291

received a wire from one Al Watkins, State Prohibition Officer, in which he stated that subject was being held in the Bluefield City Jail for violation of the prohibition laws. On this same date, James Dameron, United States Attorney at Huntington, wrote this office enclosing clippings from a local newspaper which reported that subject, Charles White, who is subject's half-brother, and Carl Rockell were taken in a raid on a garage and 18 gallons of liquor and a 1931 Ford sedan were confiscated by the officers. The officers stated that the trio were engaged in the transportation of liquor from Dingess to Bluefield and nearby points and that the garage had been recently rented by them. On December 13, 1930, this office wired Al Watkins at Bluefield, West Va., asking whether subject admitted violation and requesting that if he did not that the State prosecute the case. On December 18, 1930, Al Watkins again wired this office stating that subject admitted guilt and had paid a fine of \$150 to the city of Bluefield. On this information a warrant was issued for subject's arrest on December 22, 1930. This warrant was forwarded to the United States Marshal at Charleston, West Va., on December 23rd and he was requested to take subject into custody as soon as possible. On January 26, 1931, subject wrote this office from Norton, Virginia, stating that about the middle of December, 1930, he was arrested on suspicion and on investigation it was determined that he was not connected in any way with C. L. White and Carl Rockell and that he was released without any charges being preferred against him. He further stated that on January 3, 1931, he had arrived home for the week-end when Mr. Robert Quinn, a member of the state police, came to his house stating that he had been notified by the authorities at Bluefield, West Va. to arrest him. On further questioning Mr. Quinn told subject that he had received a wire from Washington telling him to place him under arrest. Subject stated that he then thought he was being framed and decided to "stay in the clear" until he found out what it was about. Subject's parole advisor also forwarded a letter addressed at Norton, Va., on the same date and signed by subject. On February 4, 1931, I wrote subject at Norton, Va., advising him that we had received information that he had paid a fine of \$150 to the city of Bluefield, in which case it was clear that he admitted a violation of parole. I requested that he advise me on this point immediately. On February 7, 1931, subject wrote this office addressing it to Mr. James Roberts, his parole advisor. This letter was also addressed from Norton, Va. Subject claimed in his letter that he paid no fine of \$150 but that \$450 was paid to the Chief of Police by co-defendants White and Rockell. On February 6, 1931, this office wrote John W. Bolick, Chief Probation Officer of the United States District Court, Charleston, West Virginia, giving him the above noted facts and requesting an investigation. In reply Mr. Bolick enclosed a letter from Judge George W. McGlintock which outlined subject's history and stated that Mr. Al Watkins, State Prohibition Officer, tried to have subject held and notified the Department at Washington but the city authorities let subject pay \$450 which ostensibly represented bond for the three but which was really intended to be

tendered as fine and then subject ran away. Judge McClintock further stated that subject was indicted by the Grand Jury at Bluefield and the proper capias issued but that he was now hiding. Judge McClintock stated that if subject was arrested under a warrant from his Court that he would be held for trial.

Inasmuch as subject is a fugitive and the local authorities have failed to apprehend him, it is respectfully requested that the Bureau attempt to locate subject for this office as a parole violator.



Frank Loveland,
Supervisor of Parole.

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. Nathan ✓
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
 Mr. Clegg ✓
 Mr. Coffey ✓
 Mr. Glavin ✓
 Mr. Ladd ✓
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Tracy ✓
 Mr. Carson
 Mr. Egan
 Mr. Gurnea
 Mr. Hendon
 Mr. Jones
 Mr. Quinn Tamm
 Mr. Nease
 Miss Gandy

Public Enemy Given 5-Year Jail Term

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10.—(AP)—A federal judge today sentenced a public enemy to a five-year term in the Federal Reformatory for Women at Alderson, Md., for kidnapping and holding for ransom a prominent Washington businessman.

The woman, who was given the name of "Alice" in the Atlantic City directory, was charged with kidnapping and holding for ransom a prominent Washington businessman.

The woman, who was given the name of "Alice" in the Atlantic City directory, was charged with kidnapping and holding for ransom a prominent Washington businessman.

WASH STAR

JUN 13 1936

73-2272-A

The Sunset News

Bluefield, W. Va.

July 16, 1936

RAKES, EX-KING OF BOOTLEGGERS HERE, GETS TERM

*Imposition Of Two And
Half Year Sentence Cli-
maxes Hectic Career*

Hobart "Slim" Rakes, one time "king of bootleggers" in this area whose escapades with the law are legendary, faces imprisonment of two and a half years in Atlanta penitentiary.

He was sentenced in federal court upon his conviction of a charge of possessing illegal liquor.

After he had earned quite a reputation in Mingo and Mercer counties as a rum-runner, Rakes went up for a four-year term at Atlanta. It was while there that he gained a pardon by the audacious process of forging a recommendation for parole from the United States district attorney's office in southern West Virginia, using the letterhead of the then district attorney, Judge James Damron.

After his release he came back into this area, and for a time lived in Bluefield, Va. He was for many months the object of a dogged pursuit by G-Men, and at one time was listed high up on the roster of public enemies.

He was apprehended several months ago in Virginia, and his sentence in Roanoke climaxes the fast pace he set after being liberated from Atlanta on the forged recommendation.

(THE SUNSET NEWS,
Bluefield, W. Va. 7/16/36)

Mr. Nathan ✓
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Dawsey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Lester
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

73-2272-A

POST OFFICE BOX 1525
PITTSBURGH, PA.

THE HARRINGTON ADVERTISER February 7, 1936
(Harrington, N. Va.)

34
36
98

SALES IS ORDERED
NOT TO BE MADE

Robert James M. of Kings County, was ordered to return to Atlanta to answer a federal indictment charging him with forging the name of Judge James Thomas, former U. S. district attorney, in a bank communication, when arranged yesterday afternoon before U. S. Commissioner G. A. Hickey. He will be removed to Atlanta within the next few days by U. S. Marshal M. E. Graham.

James was arrested about 10:30 a. m. Sunday, Feb. 6, by Special Agents of the FBI.

- | | |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Nathan | _____ |
| Mr. Tolson | _____ |
| Mr. Baughman | _____ |
| Chief Clerk | _____ |
| Mr. Clegg | _____ |
| Mr. Coffey | _____ |
| Mr. Edwards | _____ |
| Mr. Egan | _____ |
| Mr. Foxworth | _____ |
| Mr. Harbo | _____ |
| Mr. Joseph | _____ |
| Mr. Keith | _____ |
| Mr. Lester | _____ |
| Mr. Quinn | _____ |
| Mr. Nease | _____ |
| Mr. Tamm | _____ |
| Mr. Tracy | _____ |

Handwritten signatures and initials over the routing slip.

POST OFFICE BOX 1525
PITTSBURGH, PA.

73-2272-A

THE HERALD DISPATCH February 7, 1936
(Huntington, W. Va.)

RAKES TO FACE GEORGIA TRIAL ON U. S. CHARGE

Held On Fugitive Warrant, Will Go Before Heffley Today

Hobart Rakes, 38, of Mingo county, charged in a federal indictment with having forged his way out of Atlanta penitentiary, will be taken to Atlanta for trial under the forged charge in federal court of the Northern Georgia district, L. R. Via, assistant U. S. district attorney here, announced last night.

Rakes is in the county jail here in default of \$5,000 bond fixed in a federal fugitive warrant sworn to yesterday by Mr. Via before U. S. Commissioner G. R. Heffley. Rakes was arrested at Danville, Va., early in the week, after federal agents had trailed him since July 16, 1934, when the alleged forgery was discovered.

Rakes will be taken before Commissioner Heffley this morning for a hearing to determine whether he is the man named in the indictment. Rakes has the right technically to deny he is the man. In the event he does, Mr. Via said, he will be identified.

Forged Damron's Name

The indictment charges him with having forged the name of James Damron of Huntington to a recommendation for parole from Atlanta prison. Mr. Damron was U. S. district attorney here when Rakes was sent to prison for a four-year term in 1929 for liquor law violation.

"If Rakes denies he's the man, we'll simply take him from Commissioner Heffley's office in the First Huntington National bank building to Judge Damron's office in the same building," Mr. Via said.

The story of how Rakes got out of the penitentiary on a purportedly forged letter reads like something out of fiction. After he had served a specified part of his term, his penitentiary authorities received from the prison office a letter recommending Rakes' parole and bearing a signature purporting

Held Here



Hobart Rakes, 38, of Mingo county, held in Cabell county jail on a fugitive warrant, will be taken to Atlanta, Ga., for trial in federal court there under a charge of forging his way out of Atlanta penitentiary, it was announced yesterday.

to be Mr. Damron's. Rakes was released. Later he was brought back to prison for violation of parole and finished serving his term on January 25, 1934.

Discovered Forgery

The following July, the prison officials discovered that the letter, upon which Rakes originally had been released, was a forgery.

J. Edgar Hoover, head of the department of justice announced in Washington the letter was a forgery throughout, including the printing of the letterhead, the typing and the signature. Laboratory inspection, Mr. Hoover said, revealed the penitentiary mail receiving stamp was a forgery also, indicating the letter had never passed through the mails. The entire forgery, according to Mr. Hoover, was executed in Atlanta prison.

The indictment against Rakes charges him with forging the paper of the letter, forging the letter proper and the signature, and "uttering" (passing) the letter.

Receives Copy Of Indictment

Federal agents brought Rakes here for a decision by the U. S. district attorney's office regarding which of three charges against him would be prosecuted, those being forgery, violation of the motor vehicle theft act and a liquor law violation at Abington, Va.

Mr. Via received a certified copy of the forged indictment from the U. S. district attorney for the Northern Georgia district and with this document obtained the fugitive warrant against Rakes.

Mr. Via said the federal agents in their long pursuit of Rakes, across his trail in Mingo county where he was charged with robbery, before a trap to catch him and before he left the county, a man with whom he had stayed was arrested and sent to prison and the federal officials acting in concert with the local authorities at Abington, Va. said.

Mr. Nathan *NA*
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy
Mr. [unclear]
Mr. [unclear]

POST OFFICE

73-2272-A

POST OFF

ST PAUL PIONEER PRESS

FEB. 4, 1935

FORGER OF PAROLE REQUEST ARRESTED

Nabbed by Federal Agents on
Charge of Violating Motor
Theft Act.

Washington, Feb. 3.—(AP)—The arrest of Hobart Rakes, wanted for forgery in connection with an unsuccessful attempt to effect his own release from Atlanta penitentiary, was announced today by the Justice department.

He was taken by Federal agents and Virginia state patrolmen at Danville, Va., this morning and will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor theft act.

Rakes, while serving a sentence for conspiracy under internal revenue laws, sought to gain a return to parole through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, former Federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

He wrote the letter on stationery obtained at the prison print shop. Although the investigation was started in 1932, it was not until July 16, 1934, that a Grand jury in Georgia indicted Rakes for forging the name of Damron. Meanwhile Rakes had been discharged from the penitentiary at the expiration of his term January 25, 1934.

A new charge, involving the transportation of a stolen automobile from Wolfe, W. Va., to Rocky Gap, Va., was filed against Rakes and one John Arthur Kitts February 15, 1935, at Bluefield, W. Va.

Rakes was sentenced originally to Atlanta March 12, 1929, for a four-year term. He was paroled October 29, 1930, but on September 16, 1931, Rakes was returned to the penitentiary after his parole had been declared violated.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Foxworth	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

W. T. [Signature]

W. T. [Signature]
W. T. [Signature]
W. T. [Signature]

73-2277-A

Federal Agents Seize Fugitive Letter Forger

**Rakes, Known as 'Trigger
Man,' Surrenders at
Danville, Va.**

The far-reaching arm of the Department of Justice caught up yesterday with Hobart Rakes, climaxing a 19-month search for the liquor runner and former coal miner who almost gained his freedom from Atlanta penitentiary several years ago by forging the name of a United States attorney.

J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, announced Rakes was captured early yesterday at Danville, Va., by special agents and two Virginia highway patrolmen. Known as a dangerous "trigger man," Rakes offered no resistance and was taken to Roanoke.

He will be transferred to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act. He also is under indictment for forging the name of James Damron, former United States attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

A native Virginian, born in 1897, Rakes first received a Federal sentence in March, 1929, when the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia gave him a four-year term for conspiring to violate the internal revenue act. Sent to Atlanta, he was released on parole in October, 1930.

In September, 1931, he was returned to prison for violating conditions of his parole. Ten months later correspondence between the parole officer at Atlanta penitentiary and West Virginia authorities disclosed Rakes' scheme to forge his way to freedom.

The correspondence indicated, said the Department of Justice, "that Mr. Damron had addressed a letter to Rakes in which it was indicated that Rakes was innocent of the charge which led to the parole violator warrant being issued."

"The purported letter from Mr. Damron stated that his letter could be used to secure Rakes' release. James Damron, who at the time the letter from Parole Officer Maynard was received had retired to private practice, stated that he had not written a letter indicating Rakes' innocence."

Hoover yesterday declared:

"Investigation indicated that the complete forgery, covering the printing of the letterhead, typing and signature, was made at the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta. Laboratory investigation also indicated that the penitentiary mail receiving stamp on the forged letter was not genuine."

The ruse was frustrated and Rakes served out his term, being released January 25, 1934, without a complaint on the forgery charge being lodged against him. He was at large when a grand jury indicted him in July, 1934, for forging Damron's name.

Hoover's men redoubled efforts to recapture Rakes last February, when a complaint was filed against him and John Arthur Kitts charging them with transporting a stolen auto over a State line, from Wolfe, W. Va., to Rocky Gap, Va.

Announcing the success yesterday, Hoover declined to give the names of the agents who made the capture, in keeping with bureau policy.

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Joseph
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy

J. Edgar Hoover

WASH POST

FEB 4 1935

Suspect Seized in Forgery Committed Inside Prison

**Even Letter Head Was Printed
in Atlanta, U. S. Charges**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—The arrest of Hobart Rakes, wanted for forgery in connection with an unsuccessful attempt to secure his own release from Atlanta penitentiary, was announced today by the Justice Department. He was taken by Federal agents and Virginia state patrolmen in Danville, Va., this morning and will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor theft act.

Rakes, while serving a sentence for conspiracy under internal revenue laws, sought to secure a return to parole through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, former Federal Attorney at Huntington, W. Va. He wrote the letter on stationery obtained at the prison print shop. In announcing his arrest, J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Bureau of Investigation, said:

"Investigation indicated that the complete forgery, covering the printing of the letterhead, typing and stationery, was made at the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. Laboratory investigation also indicated that the penitentiary mail receiving stamp on the forged letter was not genuine."

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

NOTES

John D. Hill
Wm. M. Mearns

N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE

Forwarded to New York

FEB 5 1935

73-2272-A

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Man,' Surrenders at
Danville, Va.**

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Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

PLEASE RETURN TO
DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
2067 Commerce Bldg

NO.

SYMBOL

PAPER POST

CITY WASH. D.C.

DATE 10-4-36

73-2272-A

THE BEE February 4, 1936
(Danville, Va.)

Rakes Carried To West Virginia To Answer Car Theft Charge

Federal "G-Men" left here early yesterday for Roanoke, carrying Herbert Rakes, 35, arrested here shortly before dawn yesterday after federal operatives had sought him for a year on an indictment returned by a Georgia grand jury. Rakes will eventually be returned to the federal prison in Atlanta to answer a charge in connection with an unsuccessful attempt to escape from the federal penitentiary by forging a parole order.

First, Rakes will be carried to Bluefield, West Virginia, it was indicated to answer charges of violation of the national motor theft act, filed against him about a year ago.

Rakes was taken at the home of a relative, at 42 Madison avenue when Federal Officers Woltz, Saunders and Nowlin of the Roanoke bureau of the department of justice surrounded the place with Lieut. O. S. Mayberry and Officer W. H. Foster of the Danville police, and State Officer J. H. Farmer. Rakes was said to be a member of a well known Patrick county family.

The fugitive made no attempt to escape after seeing that the house was surrounded. The officers found in his possession a pistol of the luger type, but the mechanism was broken so that it could fire only one shot at a time.

The officers said Rakes attempted to escape from the federal prison in 1932 by the use of a cleverly forged letter, bearing the forged signature of James Damron, a former federal attorney at Huntington, West Virginia, in 1932.

Investigation indicated that the stationery on which the letter was written was counterfeited in the prison print shop, and that the impression of the penitentiary receiving stamp was not genuine. The attempt failed, it was said.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Herbert Rakes, accused of forgery in an unsuccessful attempt to get out of Atlanta penitentiary in 1932, was returned to jail today by government agents.

The justice department said its operatives and Virginia state policemen arrested Rakes in Danville, Va., after he had been sought since 1934, on a Georgia grand jury's indictment.

Rakes will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face another charge—violating the national motor theft act in a complaint filed a year ago.

The forgery charge developed after Rakes had been released from Atlanta upon completing a sentence for conspiracy to violate the internal revenue laws.

In 1932, the justice department said, a forged letter bearing the purported signature of James Damron, former federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va., was received by the penitentiary's parole officer. The letter indicated Rakes was innocent of a charge that he had violated a parole.

The forgery was discovered when the parole officer wrote Damron about the case. The justice department said

(Continued on Page Five.)

Rakes Carried To West Va. To Answer Car Theft Charge

(Continued from Page One.)

Investigation indicated that the complete forgery, covering the printing of the letterhead, typing and signature, was made at the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. Laboratory investigation also indicated that the penitentiary mail receiving stamp on the forged letter was not genuine.

It was not until July 16, 1934, that Rakes was indicted, however, and he had completed his sentence and been freed six months earlier.

Federal officials declined to reveal how it was possible for Rakes to forge the letter while he was in the penitentiary, declaring they did not wish to "show their hand" before his trial.

At Atlanta, Neil Andrews, assistant district attorney, said Rakes had no benefit from the forging of the letter in the penitentiary.

The letter was written December 10, 1931, after Rakes had been returned to the federal penitentiary here as a parole violator, Andrews said.

He said no detainer was lodged against Rakes and no complaint was given out at the expiration of his term Jan. 25, 1934. Rakes was freed at that time.

He added that Lawrence Camp, present district attorney at Atlanta, caused an indictment to be returned against Rakes on account of the forgery on July 16, 1934, and a search was instituted for him.

ATLANTA, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Warren A. C. Aderhold of the federal penitentiary here said tonight there was "no doubt" that the asserted attempt of Herbert Rakes to win release through a forged letter was carried out in its entirety within the prison walls.

Federal authorities at Washington announced arrest of Rakes in Danville, Va., today on the forgery charge.

The stationery used Aderhold said was obtained by Rakes from the prison printing shop. He is charged with forging the name of James Damron, former federal attorney at Huntington, West Va., in a letter to the parole board seeking his restoration to parole status.

Rakes was originally received at the penitentiary March 29, 1930, from Huntington, West Va., on a "conspiracy" to violate the internal revenue laws. He was paroled October 20, 1932, and returned September 19, 1934, as a parole violator and served out his sentence on that charge. The first release before the new one was made.

POST OFFICE BOX 1525
PITTSBURGH, PA.

73-2272-A

THE BEE, February 3, 1936
(Danville, Va.)

CONVICT HELD FORGED ORDER FOR A PARDON

Hobart Rakes Captured in Daylight Raid by Government Agents and Danville Police—Was Listed in Department of Justice as One of "Most Wanted Men"—Signed Name of Prosecuting Attorney to Papers Which Resulted in Him Walking Out of Prison a Free Man.

Hobart Rakes, a man in which the federal government has displayed marked interest for many months and on whose trial some of the most efficient of the 'G' men were placed was caught napping in Danville before daylight.

The federal department of justice put a check mark against the name on the list of the most wanted men in America—not because he had committed an outstanding crime but because he made the majesty of the law look ridiculous.

Rakes was serving time in the federal penitentiary when he duped by his own cleverness, to large the name of a federal prosecuting attorney and having accomplished this with a deftness which was almost unparalleled walked a free man and with a pardon right out of the federal penitentiary in Atlanta.

He literally secured his own release from a long term imposed on him for con piracy under the internal revenue law by writing a letter and forging the name of James Hamilton, a former federal attorney at Huntington, West, Va. The letter worked like magic and was responsible for his release, the deception not being noted until much later when he had disappeared.

The department of justice thrashed word to all of its bureaus this morning and made a public announcement that Rakes was back in custody for the act which took place here reduced the activity of a relative must see H. M. J. Hager is who probably will promote the agents responsible for his capture.

POST OFFICE BOX 175
PITTSBURGH, PA.

7-2272-A

Federal authorities received word that Rakes might be found at a house on Madison Avenue and within an hour six officers just before day-break today and surrounded the place.

Rakes got up and dressed and looked out the back window but he saw figures moving in every direction. So he sat down and the officers went in and captured him without trouble.

A revolver said to have been owned by Rakes was also taken by the police.

Federal Officers Saunders, Wolts and Nowlin from Roanoke, participated in the coup with Police Lieutenant O. S. Mayberry, Police Officer Foster and State Traffic Officer Farmer.

Rakes, who is 35 years of age, and comes of a well-known Patrick county family was located at No. 42 Madison avenue, shortly after five o'clock this morning. The city and state officers threw a cordon around the house so as to make sure that while the officers were coming in the front door he would not go out by the back.

The house in which Rakes was arrested is in the recently annexed portion of the city. It is understood that it is occupied by a cousin of the fugitive. How closely the government was on his heels is witnessed by the fact that he had arrived in Danville only the night before the officers struck. The officers did not reveal how they came into knowledge that Rakes would be found at the Madison avenue house on the night in question. The federal officials had not made previous notification of the lo-

(Please turn to page 18, col. 2.)

Convict Who Forged Pardon Order Is Held

(Continued from Page One.)

cal authorities to be on the alert and the first knowledge that Uncle Sam was looking for Rakes in Danville came with the arrival of the three federal officers who lost no time in going into action.

The officers reconnoitering saw that he sensed that he was about to be arrested, seeing him dress after they had knocked on the door and seeing him peer into the darkness where the flashlights of the officers showed him that he was hemmed in.

The German Lueger revolver which was taken in charge by State Officer Farmer was found to be defective and could fire only one shot but it was of heavy calibre.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the bureau of investigation, issued a statement in Washington, in which he said:

"Investigation indicated that the complete forgery, covering the printing of the letter head, typing and stationery, was made at the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. Laboratory investigation also indicated that the penitentiary mail receiving stamp on the forged letter was not genuine."

Although the investigation was started in 1932, it was not until July 18, 1934, that a grand jury in Georgia indicted Rakes for forging the name of Dameron. Meanwhile Rakes had been released from the penitentiary.

A new charge involving the transportation of a stolen automobile from Wolfe, W. Va. to Rocky Gap, Va., was filed against Rakes and one John Arthur Kittle on February 13, 1935, at Bluefield, W. Va.

Long Hunt For Fugitive Ends Near Danville

Federal Sleuths Nab Hobart Rakes Near Danville, Va., Early Today Ending Long Search For Man Accused Of Forging His Release From The Federal Penitentiary; Faces Auto Theft Charge At Bluefield.

Hobart "Slim" Rakes, with federal sleuths hot on his trail ever since his indictment for forging a release from the Atlanta penitentiary, reached the end of his hard-won liberty at six o'clock this morning on the outskirts of Danville, Virginia.

Rakes, a former Williamson resident and alleged "king of the West Virginia bootleggers" in the by-day of prohibition, was cornered by Green and Virginia state highway patrolmen this morning after a search of many months that led up and down the Shenandoah valley and through the hills and by-ways of Southern West Virginia.

Reported to be hiding with friends in Williamson, Rakes was sought here last summer by agents of the federal department of justice. For several days, during the middle of July, armed government men made Williamson their headquarters in the search. Time after time, seeing no sign, the Green men roamed suspected homes throughout the county, but their efforts were always unavailing. Rakes being tipped off in turn and making his escape before the officers arrived.

The government men made two arrests in the search, one which was a woman, living and operating Fred Smith, an alias, who was charged with harboring Rakes. Fred Rakes, wife of the hunted man, was arrested for questioning and being released.

Rakes will be brought to Bluefield, where he will be faced with charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act, before authorities placed with the charge of forgery. This last charge, of automobile theft, specifies that Rakes is accused of transporting a car, stolen from John Arthur Kittle, of Bluefield, from Wells, W. Va., to Rocky Gap, Virginia. This charge was filed on February 11, 1936, in Bluefield.

Capture of Rakes, long a high number on the department list of wanted men, was announced by the department of justice this morning in Washington.

Rakes was originally sentenced to Atlanta on March 12, 1929, for a four year term. He was paroled on October 29, 1930, but on September 18, 1931, he was returned to the penitentiary after his parole had been declared violated.

His release was secured, during the four year term for conspiracy, through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, a former federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the U. S. Bureau of Investigation, said: "Investigation indicated that the complete forgery, covering the printing of the letter head, typing and stationery, was made at the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia. Laboratory investigation also indicated that the penitentiary mail receiving stamp on the forged letter was not genuine."

Although the investigation was started in 1931, it was not until July 10, 1934, that a grand jury in Georgia indicted Rakes for forging the name of Damron. Meanwhile, Rakes had been discharged from the penitentiary at the expiration of his term on January 25, 1934.

The justice department then let Rakes as a "bushwhacker and liquor runner." His underworld record is 14.

Before his arrest in 1934, Rakes was a familiar figure here. His wide circle of friends throughout Mingo county, southern West Virginia and the mountainous regions of northern Virginia, afforded him headquarters of hide-outs. It was claimed, making it doubly hard for the government operatives to pick up and keep on the trail.

Many and varied rumors, most of them unfounded, arose and spread during the search through the Mingo section.

When questioned here last summer, Green assigned to the case placed the necessity of strict secrecy and would answer no questions of any kind. Dubious information as to the specific charges against Rakes and the circumstances of his escape were not

Continued on Page 2

Williamson Daily News
Williamson, W. Va.
February 3, 1936

LONG HUNT FOR FUGITIVE ENDS NEAR DANVILLE

Continued from Page One
admittedly known with Rakes' statement this morning.

Local business interests were glad to see Rakes' man released. A crowd of federal men were ordered to the search early in the week. This crowd was composed from the local continued unavailingly and a second crowd was ordered, under strict secrecy, until the final drive-down this morning at Danville.

Meanwhile, Green and other leaders of the Rakes' gang were not located.

The department of justice has told, based present reports, that to various police departments in the county, carried the above information that Rakes was wanted for having the name of J. E. Damron, former federal attorney at Atlanta, Georgia, forged.

It was stated that Rakes was a well-known figure in the Mingo section and that he was a "bushwhacker and liquor runner." It was also stated that Rakes was a "bushwhacker and liquor runner."

It was stated in Atlanta yesterday that Rakes was a "bushwhacker and liquor runner." It was also stated that Rakes was a "bushwhacker and liquor runner."

G-MEN

CAPTURE

"SLIM" RAKES

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Egan	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. Nathan	<i>File</i>
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	<i>File</i>
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

W.H. C.W. in Newer weeks

Capture Convict Who Forged Way Out of U. S. Cell

Washington, D. C. (AP) — The justice department announced Monday the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a federal attorney to obtain his release from Atlanta penitentiary.

Rakes was arrested by federal agents and Virginia state highway patrolmen early Monday in Danville, Va. He will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act.

While serving a sentence for "conspiracy" under the internal revenue laws, Rakes obtained his release from the federal penitentiary at Atlanta through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, former federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL
FEBRUARY 3, 1936.

73-2272-A₁

PHOENIX EVENING GAZETTE
February 3, 1936

WILY FUGITIVE IS CAUGHT BY 6-MEN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—(AP)—The justice department announced today the capture of Robert Rakes, who forged the name of a federal attorney to secure his own release from Atlanta penitentiary. Rakes was arrested by federal agents and Virginia state highway patrolmen today in Danville, Va. Rakes will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act. While serving a sentence for "conspiracy" under the internal revenue laws, Rakes secured his release from the penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., through a letter purporting signed by James Dameron, former federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

Mr. Nathan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Clerk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Coffey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Edwards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Egan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Foxworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Harbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Hendon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Keith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Lester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Quinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Neill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

HH *DM* *Heilker*
TH *Meeks* *EW*

73-2272-A

Mr. Nathan ☒
 Mr. Tolson ☒
 Mr. Baughman ☐
 Chief Clerk ☐
 Mr. Clegg ☐
 Mr. Coffey ☐
 Mr. Edwards ☐
 Mr. Egan ☐
 Mr. Foxworth ☐
 Mr. Harbo ☐
 Mr. Joseph ☐
 Mr. Keith ☐
 Mr. Lester ☐
 Mr. Quinn ☐
 Mr. Schilder ☐
 Mr. Tamm ☐
 Mr. Tracy ☐
 Miss Gandy ☐

NOTES
Handwritten notes and signatures

Felon Who Forged Release Order Caught

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—The Department of Justice today announced the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a federal attorney to obtain his own release from Atlanta penitentiary. Rakes was arrested by Federal agents and Virginia state highway patrolmen at 8 a. m. today in Danville, Va. Rakes will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act.

While serving a sentence for 'conspiracy' under the internal revenue laws, Rakes obtained his release from the penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, former federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Bureau of Investigation, said:

"Investigation indicated that the complete forgery was made at the United States penitentiary at Atlanta."

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

2-3-36
 73-2272-A



Handwritten initials 'Jm' in a circle.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Handwritten initials 'Jm' and 'TS' next to the list.

Handwritten note: 'See Mr. Healy at Mr. Neeka'.

**SEIZED AFTER FORGING
RELEASE FROM PRISON**

Washington, D. C., Feb. 3.—(AP)—The justice department announced today the capture of Robert Baker, who forged the name of a federal attorney to secure his own release from Atlanta penitentiary. Baker, was arrested today in Danville, Va.

Baker will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act.

73-2272-A CHICAGO DAILY NEWS 2-3-36

U. S. AGENTS SEIZE ESCAPED PRISONER

Rakes Gained Liberty by Forging Papers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (A. P.).—The Department of Justice announced today the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a Federal attorney to obtain his own release from the Atlanta Penitentiary.

Rakes was arrested by Federal agents and Virginia State Highway patrolmen at 6 A. M. today in Danville, Va.

Rakes will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act.

While serving a sentence for conspiracy under the internal revenue laws, Rakes secured his release from the penitentiary at Atlanta through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, former Federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Bureau of Investigation, said:

"Investigation indicated that the complete forgery, covering the printing of the letterhead, typing and stationery, was made at the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. Laboratory investigation also indicated that the penitentiary mail receiving stamp on the forged letter was not genuine."

Although the investigation was started in 1932, it was not until July 16, 1934, that a Grand Jury in Georgia indicted Rakes for forging the name of Mr. Damron. Meanwhile, Rakes had been discharged from the penitentiary at the expiration of his term on January 25, 1934.

A new charge, involving the transportation of a stolen automobile from Wolfe, W. Va., to Rocky Gap, Va., was filed against Rakes and John Arthur Kille on February 28, 1935, at Bluefield, W. Va.

Mr. Nathan	HTS
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	HTS
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

7/11/35
Thos. Neil Rees
Aut. Rec. Secs

St. Paul Dispatch
2-3-36

FEDS ARREST CONVICT WHO TRIED FORGERY FOR RELEASE

Washington, Feb. 3.—(P)—The arrest of Hobart Rakes, wanted for forgery in connection with an unsuccessful attempt to effect his own release from Atlanta penitentiary, was announced today by the Justice department.

He was taken by Federal agents and Virginia state patrolmen in Danville, Va., this morning and will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor theft act.

Rakes, while serving a sentence for conspiracy under internal revenue laws, sought to gain a return to parole through a letter purportedly signed by James Damron, former Federal attorney at Huntington, W. Va.

He wrote the letter on stationery obtained at the prison print shop.

Although the investigation was started in 1932, it was not until July 16, 1934, that a Grand jury in Georgia indicted Rakes for forging the name of Damron. Meanwhile Rakes had been discharged from the penitentiary at the expiration of his term January 23, 1934.

A new charge, involving the transportation of a stolen automobile from Wolfe, W. Va., to Rocky Gap, Va., was filed against Rakes and one John Arthur Kitts February 15, 1935, at Bluefield, W. Va.

Rakes was sentenced originally to Atlanta March 12, 1929, for a four-year term. He was paroled October 22, 1930, but on September 16, 1931, Rakes was returned to the penitentiary "after his parole had been declared violated."

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

W. H. R. Keith

73-2272-A

Mr. Nathan	H-12
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E.A. Tamm	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Handwritten: J. Edgar Hoover

SEIZE CONVICT FALSELY FREED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—(AP.) —The Justice Department announced today the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a federal attorney to secure his own release from Atlanta Penitentiary.

Rakes was arrested by federal agents and Virginia State highway patrolmen in Danville, Va. He will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the national motor vehicle theft act.

Mr. Nathan	<i>2/2/36</i>
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Tamm	<i>2/2/36</i>
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	<i>2/2/36</i>

Rakes, Federal Jail Breaker, Caught

Washington, Feb. 1 (AP)—The Justice Department announced today the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a federal attorney to obtain his own release from Atlanta penitentiary.

Rakes was arrested by federal agents and Virginia state highway patrolmen at 6 a. m. today in Danville, Va.

Boston American
2/2/36

73-2272-A

February 3, 1936

Washington, Feb. 3.—(AP)—The Justice Department announced today the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a Federal attorney to obtain his own release from Atlanta Penitentiary. Rakes was arrested today in Danville, Va.

Rakes will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act. While serving a sentence for "conspiracy" under the

Mr. Nathan **HN2**
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm **Wots**
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy
Miss Neale

73-2272-A

Captured



HOBART HAKES.

The Justice Department announced today the capture of Hakes, who forged the name of a Federal attorney in an unsuccessful effort to obtain his own release from Atlanta Penitentiary. Hakes was arrested by Federal agents and Virginia State highway patrolmen at 6 a.m. today in Danville, Va.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	✓
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schlong	✓
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	

WASH STAM

FEB 3 1936

73-2272 A

PRISON ESCAPE FORGER SEIZED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (By International News Service).—Arrest of Hobart Chester Rakes, who forged his way out of the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, was announced today by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Rakes, known as "Quick on the Trigger," was arrested today at Danville, Va., by an officer of the Virginia State Highway Patrol. He will be removed to Bluefield, W. Va., to face charges of violating the Motor Vehicle Theft Act.

Rakes was serving four years in Atlanta on charges of bootlegging by cleverly printing letter heads, typing a signature and then forging the penitentiary mail receiving stamp he led officials to believe that his parole had been recommended by the United States Attorney at Charleston, W. Va., and he was released on July 12, 1932.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Handwritten initials: HHS, PRT, and a signature across the bottom of the list.

NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL

Forwarded by New York Office

FEB 3 - 1936

臺灣省立美術館藏
 國立歷史博物館藏
 國立中央研究院藏

Rakes was serving four years in Atlanta on charges of bootlegging.

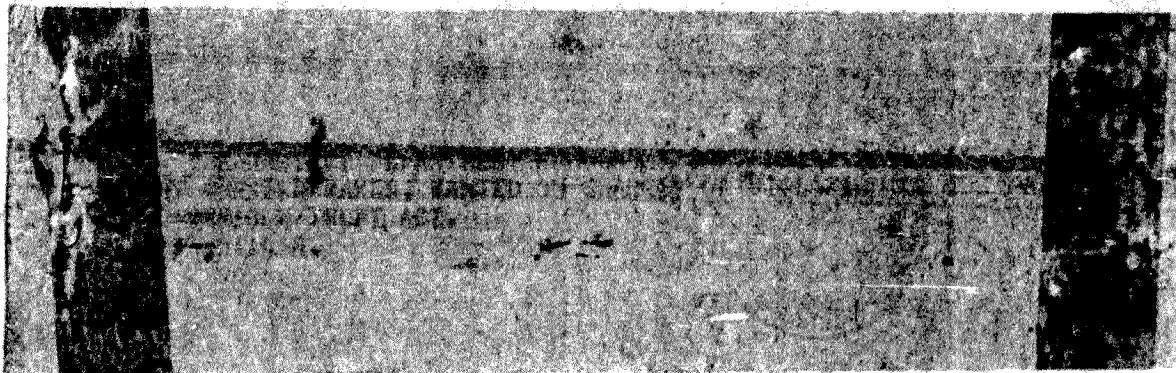
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
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Mr. Edwards
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Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

✓

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Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
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Chief Clerk
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Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

JAH *Mr. Vincent*
Mr. Heilke

ESCAPED FORGER CAPTURED BY U. S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP).—The Justice Department announced today the capture of Hobart Rakes, who forged the name of a Federal attorney to obtain his own release from Atlanta Penitentiary.

Rakes was arrested by Federal agents and Virginia State Highway Patrolmen at 8 A. M. today in Danville, Va.

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